

T

1 **t** or **T** /'ti:/ *noun*, *pl* **t**'s or **ts** or **T**'s or **Ts** /'ti:z/ : the 20th letter of the English alphabet [count] a word that begins with a *t* [noncount] a word that begins with *t*
to a T *informal* : in a perfect or exact way • Her new car fits/suits her **to a T**. [=to a tee] • That's him **to a T**. [=that is a perfect description of him]

2 **t** *abbr* **1** temperature **2** time **3** ton
ta /'ta:/ *interj*, *Brit*, *informal* — used to say “thank you”
TA *abbr* **1** US teaching assistant **2** *Brit* Territorial Army

1 **tab** /'tæb/ *noun*, *pl* **tabs** [count]
1 a : a small, flat piece on a box, envelope, etc., that can be put into a hole in order to hold two parts together • Insert the **tab** into this slot to close the box. **b** : a small, flat piece that sticks out from the edge of something (such as a folder) and allows you to identify and find it easily • a notebook with index **tabs** **c** *US* : a small piece of metal, plastic, etc., that is pulled in order to open or close something • The **tab** on the zipper is broken. • the **tab** [= (US) pull tab, (Brit) ring pull] on a can of soda
2 *US*, *informal* : a record of the things (such as drinks at a bar) that a customer has ordered and will pay for later • He ran up a \$200 **bar tab**. • The final **tab** [=bill] came to \$200. • He put the drinks on his **tab**. • She offered to **pick up the tab**. [=pay the bill] for the meal.
3 : **TAB KEY** • You can move to the next column in a table by pressing **tab**. [=by pressing the tab key]
4 *informal* : a small pill of an illegal drug • a **tab** of Ecstasy
keep tabs on *informal* : to carefully watch (someone or something) in order to learn what that person or thing is doing • We are **keeping tabs on** their movements. • The magazine **keeps tabs on** the latest fashion trends.

2 **tab** *verb* **tabs**; **tabbed**; **tab-bing**
1 [+ *obj*] : to put a small, identifying label (called a tab) on something — often used as (be) **tabbed** • a **tabbed** notebook [=a notebook with index tabs]
2 [+ *obj*] *US*, *informal* : to say that (someone or something) will do something or have a particular role or purpose — often used as (be) **tabbed** • She **was tabbed** (as) the favorite to win. • an amount of money **tabbed** for maintenance
3 [*no obj*] : to hit the tab key on a computer or typewriter • After you type your name in the first box, you can move to the next box by **tabbing**.

Ta-bas-co /tə'bæskou/ *trademark* — used for a spicy sauce made from hot peppers

tab-by /'tæbi/ *noun*, *pl* **-bies** [count] : a cat that has dark and light stripes or spots on its fur

tab-er-na-cle /'tæbə,nækəl/ *noun*, *pl* **-na-cles**
1 [count] : a place of worship that is used by some Christian groups • a Mormon/Baptist **tabernacle**
2 [count] : a box in which the holy bread and wine are kept in a Catholic church
3 **the Tabernacle** : a small, movable tent that was used as a place of worship by the ancient Israelites

tab key *noun*, *pl* ~ **keys** [count] : a key on the keyboard of a typewriter or computer that is used to move several spaces at a time or to move to a particular position in a document

1 **ta-ble** /'teɪbəl/ *noun*, *pl* **tables** [count]
1 a : a piece of furniture that has a flat top and one or more legs • They were sitting at/around the dining/dinner **table**. • She reserved a **table** for two at the restaurant. • Please set the **table** for dinner. [=place plates, silverware, etc., on the table] — see also COFFEE TABLE, END TABLE **b** : a piece of furniture with a flat surface that is designed to be used for a particular purpose • a billiard/poker **table** — see also CARD TABLE, DRAWING TABLE, NEGOTIATING TABLE, OPERATING TABLE
2 : a group of people who are sitting at a table • He had the attention of the entire **table**.
3 : a collection of information that is arranged in rows and columns • The **table** shows the salary of each employee. — see also MULTIPLICATION TABLE, PERIODIC TABLE, TIMES TABLE
at table *Brit* : sitting at a table and eating a meal • The whole family was **at table**.
lay/put (all/all of) your cards on the table see **1** CARD
on the table : able to be considered or discussed • All op-

tions are **on the table**. • A new contract offer is **on the table**.
run the table *chiefly US 1* pool, billiards, etc. : to hit all the remaining balls into pockets without missing **2** *informal* : to win all the remaining games, points, etc. • The team could **run the table** to win the league championship.
table of contents see **1** CONTENT
turn the tables : to change a situation completely so that you have an advantage over someone who previously had an advantage over you — often + *on* • He **turned the tables on** his attacker and pinned him to the ground.
under the table 1 — used to describe a situation in which a worker is being paid in a secret and illegal way in order to avoid paying taxes • They were paying her **under the table**. • He's working **under the table**. **2** *informal* ♦ To **drink someone under the table** means to drink more alcohol than someone else without becoming extremely drunk, unconscious, etc. • He tried to **drink me under the table**.
— see also WATER TABLE

table

title	PLANETS			header, heading
		Diameter (mi)	Diameter (km)	
row	Mercury	3,033	4,879	cell
	Mars	4,222	6,794	
	Venus	7,522	12,104	
	Earth	7,928	12,756	
	Neptune	30,782	49,528	
	Uranus	31,770	51,118	
	Saturn	74,914	120,536	
	Jupiter	88,865	142,984	
column				

2 **table** *verb* **tables**; **ta-bled**; **ta-bling** [+ *obj*]
1 *US* : to decide not to discuss (something) until a later time • The committee **tabled** the issue until the next meeting.
2 *Brit* : to formally present (something) for discussion • She plans to **table** a motion for debate in Parliament.

tab-leau /'tæ,blou/ *noun*, *pl* **tab-leaux** also **tab-leaus** /'tæ,blouz/ [count]
1 : a view or sight that looks like a picture : SCENE • The houses are grouped together in a charming **tableau**. • a stunning **tableau**
2 : a scene that typically shows an event in history or literature and that is created on a stage by a group of people who are dressed in costumes and who do not speak or move • **historical tableaux**

ta-ble-cloth /'teɪbəl,kloθ/ *noun*, *pl* **-cloths** [count] : a cloth that is placed on a table before other objects are placed on it — see picture at PLACE SETTING

table football *noun* [noncount] *Brit* : FOOSBALL

ta-ble-land /'teɪbəl,lænd/ *noun*, *pl* **-lands** [count, noncount] : an area of high flat land : PLATEAU

table linen *noun*, *pl* ~ **linens** [count] : cloths (such as tablecloths and napkins) that are used during a meal

table manners *noun* [*plural*] : behavior while eating a meal at a table • He needs to learn good **table manners**.

table mat *noun*, *pl* ~ **mats** [count] *Brit* : a piece of cloth or wood that is placed underneath a hot dish or pot in order to protect the surface of a table

ta-ble-mate /'teɪbəl,meɪt/ *noun*, *pl* **-mates** [count] *US* : a person who is sitting with you at a table • He was loudly arguing with one of his **tablemates**.

table salt *noun* [noncount] : the type of salt that is usually on a table for people to use while they are dining

table soccer *noun* [noncount] *US* : FOOSBALL

ta-ble-spoon /'teɪbəl,spu:n/ *noun*, *pl* **-spoons** [count]
1 a : a spoon that is used by cooks for measuring dry and liquid ingredients and that holds an amount equal to ½ fluid ounce or three teaspoons • She carefully measured the flour with a **tablespoon**. **b** : the amount that a tablespoon will hold : TABLESPOONFUL • Add two **tablespoons** of flour. • The recipe calls for four **tablespoons** of milk. — *abbr.* **tb.**, **tbsp.**

2 : a fairly large spoon that is used for serving or eating food
— compare TEASPOON

ta·ble·spoon·ful /'teɪbəl,spu:n,ful/ *noun*, *pl* **-spoon·fuls** /-,spu:n,fulz/ or **-spoons·ful** /-,spu:nz,ful/ [*count*] : the amount that a tablespoon will hold • Add two *tablespoonfuls* [=tablespoons] of flour. — abbr. *tb.*, *tbs.*, *tbsp.*

tab·let /'tæblət/ *noun*, *pl* **-lets** [*count*]

1 : a flat piece of stone, clay, or wood that has writing on it • an ancient stone *tablet*

2 : a small usually round piece of medicine • aspirin/vitamin *tablets*

3 chiefly *US* : a set of paper sheets for writing or drawing that are glued or fastened at one edge : PAD • a writing *tablet*

table talk *noun* [*noncount*] : informal conversation at a table or during a meal

table tennis *noun* [*noncount*] : a game in which players stand at opposite ends of a table and use wooden paddles to hit a small plastic ball to each other across a net — compare PING-PONG

ta·ble·top /'teɪbəl,tɑ:p/ *noun*, *pl* **-tops** [*count*] : the surface of a table

— *tabletop* *adj.*, always used before a noun • a *tabletop* game

ta·ble·ware /'teɪbəl,weə/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : dishes, glasses, knives, forks, etc., that are used for serving and eating food at a table

table wine *noun*, *pl* ~ **wines** [*count*, *noncount*] : a wine that is not very expensive and that is used for ordinary meals

tab·loid /'tæbloɪd/ *noun*, *pl* **-loids** [*count*] : a newspaper that has pages about half the size of an ordinary newspaper and that typically contains many photographs and stories about famous people and other less serious news items • She is used to seeing her name in the *tabloids*. — compare BROADSHEET

— *tabloid* *adj.*, always used before a noun • *tabloid* journalism/reporters

1 **ta·boo** /tə'bu:/ *adj.* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not acceptable to talk about or do • Sex is a *taboo* subject for many people. • In this company, dating a coworker is considered *taboo*.

2 **taboo** *noun*, *pl* **-boos** [*count*]

1 : a rule against doing or saying something in a particular culture or religion • religious/social *taboos* against drinking alcohol

2 : something that is not acceptable to talk about or do : something that is taboo • Marrying a close relative is a *taboo* in many cultures.

tab·u·lar /'tæbjələ/ *adj.* : arranged in rows or columns in a table • data displayed in *tabular* form [=data displayed in a table]

tab·u·late /'tæbjəleɪt/ *verb* **-lates**; **-lat·ed**; **-lat·ing** [*+ obj*] : to arrange information in an organized way so that it can be studied, recorded, etc. • Officials *tabulated* the scores. • A machine is used to *tabulate* the votes.

— *tab·u·la·tion* /,tæbjə'leɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

tach·o·graph /'tækəgræf/ *noun*, *pl* **-graphs** [*count*] *Brit* : a device in a truck or similar vehicle that records the speed of the vehicle and the times when it is moving and not moving

ta·chom·e·ter /tæ'ka:mətə/ *noun*, *pl* **-ters** [*count*] *technical* : a device that measures how fast something (such as a wheel) is turning — see picture at CAR; compare ODOMETER, SPEEDOMETER

tac·it /'tæsət/ *adj.*, *formal* : expressed or understood without being directly stated • She felt that she had her parents' *tacit* approval to borrow the car. • There was a *tacit* agreement that he would pay off the loan.

— *tac·it·ly* *adv.* • They felt that he had *tacitly* agreed to their proposal by not objecting to it.

tac·i·turn /'tæsə,tən/ *adj.* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : tending to be quiet : not speaking frequently • a somewhat *taciturn* young man

— *tac·i·tur·ni·ty* /,tæsə'tənəti/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 **tack** /'tæk/ *noun*, *pl* **tacks**

1 [*count*] **a** : a small, sharp nail usually with a wide, flat head • carpet *tacks* **b** *US* : THUMB TACK

2 *sailing* **a** [*count*, *noncount*] : the direction that a ship or boat is sailing in as it moves at an angle to the direction of the wind • We were sailing on (a/the) port *tack*. [=with the wind coming from our port/left side] • the starboard *tack* **b** [*count*] : a change from one direction to another direction while sailing • a *tack* from port to starboard **c** [*count*] : the

distance traveled while sailing in a particular direction • a long *tack*

3 : a way in which you do something or try to do something [*singular*] He thought he should try a new/different *tack*. [*noncount*] The company decided to change *tack*. [=to try using a different method/approach]

4 [*count*] : a loose stitch that is used to hold pieces of cloth together before sewing them tightly together

get down to brass *tacks* see BRASS

— compare ³TACK

2 **tack** *verb* **tacks**; **tacked**; **tack·ing**

1 always followed by an adverb or preposition [*+ obj*] : to fasten or attach (something) with tacks • She *tacked* a poster on the wall. • A message was *tacked* to the board.

2 [*+ obj*] : to add on or attach (something) in a quick or careless way — usually + *on* or *onto* • They *tacked* one more provision *onto* the deal. • The porch looked like it was just *tacked on/onto* the house.

3 [*no obj*] *sailing* : to turn a ship or boat so that the wind is coming at it from the opposite side • We had to *tack* repeatedly as we sailed toward the harbor.

3 **tack** *noun* [*noncount*] : the equipment (such as a saddle and a bridle) that is used for riding a horse — compare ¹TACK

1 **tack·le** /'tækəl/ *noun*, *pl* **tack·les**

1 [*noncount*] : equipment that is used for a particular activity (especially fishing) • a box for fishing *tackle* • a *tackle* shop [=a shop that sells fishing equipment]

2 [*count*] *sports* : the act of tackling another player: such as **a** *American football or rugby* : the act of forcing the player who has the ball to fall to the ground • He made two *tackles* in the first half. • He missed the *tackle*. [=he failed to make the tackle] **b** *soccer, field hockey, etc.* : the act of trying to get the ball from an opposing player

3 [*count*] *American football* **a** : either one of two players on the offensive team who play in positions on the line of scrimmage next to the guards **b** : either one of two players on the defensive team who play in positions near the center of the line of scrimmage — see also NOSE TACKLE

4 [*count*, *noncount*] : an arrangement of ropes and wheels used for lifting or pulling something heavy — see also BLOCK AND TACKLE

5 [*noncount*] *Brit, informal* : a man's sexual organs

2 **tackle** *verb* **tackles**; **tack·led**; **tack·ling** [*+ obj*]

1 **a** : to forcefully seize (someone) and cause that person to fall to the ground • The police officer *tackled* him as he tried to escape. **b** *American football or rugby* : to force (the player with the ball) to fall to the ground • He was *tackled* at the line of scrimmage. **c** *soccer, field hockey, etc.* : to try to get the ball from (an opposing player who has it)

2 : to deal with (something difficult) • I'll *tackle* my homework later. • We found new ways to *tackle* the problem.

— *tack·ler* /'tækələ/ *noun*, *pl* **-lers** [*count*]

tacky /'tæki/ *adj* **tack·i·er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : slightly wet and sticky • The paint is still a little *tacky*.

2 *informal* **a** : having a cheap and ugly appearance : not tasteful or stylish • We got rid of that *tacky* old furniture/wallpaper. • bright, *tacky* clothes • *tacky* souvenirs **b** chiefly *US* : not socially proper or acceptable • *tacky* behavior • a very *tacky* comment

— *tack·i·ness* /'tækinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] • the *tackiness* of the newly painted walls • the *tackiness* of his bright clothes

ta·co /'ta:kou/ *noun*, *pl* **-cos** [*count*] : a Mexican food that consists of a folded and usually fried piece of thin bread (called a tortilla) that is filled with meat, cheese, lettuce, etc.

tact /'tækt/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the ability to do or say things without offending or upsetting other people • The peace talks required great *tact* on the part of both leaders. • I was surprised by his lack of *tact*.

tact·ful /'tæktfəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : careful not to offend or upset other people : having or showing tact • He gave a *tactful* critique of her story. • It was *tactful* of her not to criticize me in front of my boss.

— *tact·ful·ly* /'tæktfəli/ *adv.* • *tactfully* worded comments

— *tact·ful·ness* *noun* [*noncount*]

tac·tic /'tæktɪk/ *noun*, *pl* **-tics**

1 [*count*] : an action or method that is planned and used to achieve a particular goal • an effective *tactic* for solving crimes • political *tactics* • We may need to change *tactics*. — see also DELAYING TACTIC

2 *tactics* [*plural*] : the activity or skill of organizing and moving soldiers and equipment in a military battle • a specialist in naval *tactics*

tac-ti-cal /'tæktɪkəl/ *adj* : of, relating to, or used for a specific plan that is created to achieve a particular goal in war, politics, etc. • **a tactical maneuver/procedure** [=a maneuver/procedure that is done to produce a particular result] • They gained a **tactical** advantage by joining with one of their competitors. • He made a serious **tactical** error. • **tactical** decisions/skills • The planes provided **tactical** air support for the soldiers on the ground. • **tactical** missiles/weapons [=missiles/weapons that are designed to be used over a short distance in a military battle]

– **tac-ti-cal-ly** /'tæktɪkli/ *adv*

tac-ti-cian /tæk'tɪʃən/ *noun, pl -cians* [count] : someone who is good at making plans in order to achieve particular goals • **a brilliant political/military tactician**

tac-tile /'tæktl/, *Brit* 'tæk,tail/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *formal* : relating to the sense of touch • The thick brushstrokes give the painting a **tactile** quality. • visual and **tactile** experiences

tact-less /'tæktləs/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : tending to offend or upset people : not showing or having tact • **a tactless question/comment** • **a rude, tactless man**

– **tact-less-ly** *adv* • He **tactlessly** asked her how old she was.

– **tact-less-ness** *noun* [noncount]

tad /'tæd/ *noun*

a tad informal 1 : a small amount • Move it **a tad** [=a bit] to the right. 2 : very slightly • I'm just **a tad** nervous. • He's **a tad** taller than I am.

tad-pole /'tæd,poul/ *noun, pl -poles* [count] : a small creature that becomes an adult frog or toad, that has a rounded body and a long tail, and that lives in water — called also (US) *polliwog*

tae kwon do or **Tae Kwon Do** /'taɪ'kwɑ:n'dou/ *noun* [noncount] : a style of fighting that originated in Korea and that uses kicks and punches but no weapons

taf-fe-ta /'tæfətə/ *noun* [noncount] : a stiff, shiny type of cloth that is used especially to make dresses

taf-fy /'tæfi/ *noun, pl taf-fies* [count, noncount] US : a type of soft and chewy candy • **saltwater taffy**

¹tag /'tæg/ *noun, pl tags*

1 [count] : a small piece of cloth, paper, metal, etc., that is attached to something and that has information written on it • **a dog's identification/ID tags** • **luggage tags** • According to the **tag**, the shirt needs to be washed in cold water. — see also DOG TAG, NAME TAG, PRICE TAG

2 [count] : a name or phrase that is used to describe someone or something • They started calling her "rich girl," and the **tag** stayed with her until graduation.

3 **tags** [plural] US **a** : a vehicle's license plates • The policeman checked the car's **tags**. **b** : small stickers on a vehicle's license plates which show that the vehicle can legally be driven until a particular date

4 [count] **computers** : a piece of computer code that is used to identify a particular type of text so that the text can be arranged or shown in a certain way • **HTML tags**

5 [count] : TAG QUESTION

– compare ³TAG

²tag *verb* **tags; tagged; tag-ging** [+ *obj*]

1 : to put a tag on (something) • The items were **tagged** for the sale.

2 : to name or describe (someone or something) in a specified way : LABEL • He was **tagged** (as) a miser for his careful spending.

3 US, *informal* : to damage (someone else's property) by illegally writing or painting something (such as your name) on it : to write graffiti on (something) • Someone **tagged** the walls of the school.

– compare ⁴TAG

– **tag-ger** /'tægə/ *noun, pl -gers* [count]

³tag *noun, pl tags*

1 [noncount] : a children's game in which one player is called "it" and chases the other players to try to touch one of them and make that player "it" • Do you want to play **tag**? — see also PHONE TAG

2 [count] **baseball** : the act of causing a base runner to be out by touching the runner with the ball : the act of tagging a runner • The catcher applied/made the **tag** for the last out of the game.

– compare ¹TAG

⁴tag *verb* **tags; tagged; tagging** [+ *obj*]

1 : to touch (a player) in a game of tag • **Tag!** You're it!

2 **baseball** **a** : to cause (a base runner) to be out by touching him or her with the ball • She was **tagged** out by the catcher. **b** : to put your foot on a base and stay there until a

fly ball is caught before you begin to run to try to reach the next base • The runner at third **tagged** and tried to score on a fly ball to left field. — often + *up* • The runner **tagged up** and tried to score.

tag along [phrasal verb] *informal* : to go somewhere with someone • "I'm going to the store." "Would you mind if I **tagged along** with you?"

– compare ²TAG

tag-along /'tægə,lɑ:n/ *noun, pl -alongs* [count] US : a person who follows or goes somewhere with another person or group often in an annoying way • His little sister was sometimes a **tagalong** on his outings with his friends. — see also *tag along* at ⁴TAG

tag-line /'tæg,lain/ *noun, pl -lines* [count]

1 : a memorable phrase or sentence that is closely associated with a particular person, product, movie, etc. • the movie's famous **tagline**

2 : the words at the end of a joke, story, etc. : PUNCH LINE

tag question *noun, pl ~ -tions* [count] *grammar* : a brief question (such as "don't you?" in "You know him, don't you?") that comes at the end of a statement usually to ask if the statement is correct

tag sale *noun, pl ~ sales* [count] US : GARAGE SALE

tag team *noun, pl ~ teams* [count] : a team of two or more professional wrestlers who take turns fighting during a match — often used figuratively • **a political tag team**

tai chi or **t'ai chi** or **Tai Chi** or **T'ai Chi** /'taɪ'tʃi:/ *noun* [noncount] : a Chinese form of exercise that uses very slow and controlled movements

¹tail /'teɪl/ *noun, pl tails*

1 [count] : the part of an animal's body that extends from the animal's back end • **a monkey with a long tail** — see pictures at BIRD, HORSE

2 [count] **a** : a long piece that extends from the back end or bottom of something • the **tail** of a kite • a comet's **tail** — see also PIGTAILS, PONYTAIL, SHIRTTAIL **b** : the back end of an airplane, helicopter, etc. — see picture at AIRPLANE

3 **tails** [plural] : the back side of a coin : the side of a coin that is opposite the side which shows a picture of a person's head — usually used to refer to one of the two choices you can make when a coin is thrown in the air to decide something • I call **tails**. • Is it heads or **tails**? [=did the coin land with heads or tails facing up?] — compare ¹HEAD 5

4 **tails** [plural] : TAILCOAT • He wore a top hat and **tails**.

5 [singular] *informal* : a person (such as a detective) who follows or watches someone • They **put a tail** on the suspect. [=they had someone follow the suspect]

bright-eyed and bushy-tailed see BRIGHT

not make head or/nor tail of see ¹HEAD

on someone's tail informal : following closely behind someone • The sheriff was **hot on their tails**.

the tail wagging the dog informal — used to describe a situation in which an important or powerful person, organization, etc., is being controlled by someone or something that is much less important or powerful

turn tail informal : to turn around and run away from danger, trouble, etc. • He **turned tail** and ran from the fight. • You can't just **turn tail** and run from your problems.

with your tail between your legs : with a feeling of being embarrassed or ashamed especially because you have been defeated • He lost the fight and went home **with his tail between his legs**.

– **tail-less** /'teɪləs/ *adj* • **tailless** cats

²tail *verb* **tails; tailed; tail-ing**

1 [+ *obj*] *informal* : to follow (someone) closely • The police had been **tailing** the suspect for several miles. • She is constantly **tailed** by the press.

2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [no *obj*] : to move in a line that is not straight • The pitch **tailed** away from the batter.

tail back [phrasal verb] *Brit, of vehicles* : to form a line that moves slowly or not at all because of heavy traffic, an accident, etc. • Traffic **tailed back** [=backed up] for miles. — see also TAILBACK 2

tail off [phrasal verb] : to become smaller or quieter in a gradual way • Our productivity **tailed off** last year. • She started to ask a question and then her voice **tailed off**. [=trailed off]

tail-back /'teɪl,bæk/ *noun, pl -backs* [count]

1 **American football** : a player on offense who runs with the ball and blocks : HALFBACK

2 *Brit* : a situation in which the flow of traffic is blocked and

a long line of vehicles forms • a traffic *tailback* [= (US) *back-up*] — see also *tail back* at ²TAIL

tail-bone /ˈteɪlˌboʊn/ *noun*, *pl* **-bones** [count] : the small bone at the end of the spine : COCCYX

tail-coat /ˈteɪlˌkoʊt/ *noun*, *pl* **-coats** [count] : a formal jacket that is worn by a man and that has a short front and a long back which divides into two pieces

tailed /ˈteɪld/ *adj* : having a tail of a specified type — used in combination • a white-tailed deer • long-tailed monkeys

tail end *noun*

the tail end : the last part of something • I came late to the meeting and only caught the *tail end*. • the *tail end* of summer • She is at the *tail end* of her career.

tail fin *noun*, *pl* ~ **fins** [count]

1 : a fin at the back end of a fish, whale, etc.

2 : a decorative part on the back of a car that is shaped like a fish's fin

¹**tail-gate** /ˈteɪlˌɡeɪt/ *noun*, *pl* **-gates** [count] *chiefly* US : a door at the back of a vehicle (such as a station wagon or pickup truck) that opens downward and that can be lowered or removed to make it easier to load things into the vehicle — see also TAILGATE PARTY

²**tailgate** *verb* **-gates; -gat-ed; -gat-ing**

1 : to drive too closely behind another vehicle [no obj] He hit the car in front of him because he was *tailgating*. [+ obj] Someone was *tailgating* me.

2 [no obj] US : to have a tailgate party • They started *tailgating* at 10 o'clock.

tailgate party *noun*, *pl* ~ **-ties** [count] US : a party in which people serve food and drinks from the back end of their vehicles usually in a parking lot before or after a major public event (such as a football game, a concert, etc.)

tail-light /ˈteɪlˌlaɪt/ *noun*, *pl* **-lights** [count] : a red light at the back of a vehicle — see picture at CAR

¹**tai-lor** /ˈteɪlə/ *noun*, *pl* **-lors** [count] : a person who makes men's clothes (such as suits and jackets) that are measured to fit a particular person

²**tai-lor** *verb* **-lors; -lored; -lor-ing** [+ obj]

1 : to make (clothing that is measured to fit a particular person) • I had my suit *tailored*.

2 : to make or change (something) so that it meets a special need or purpose • They *tailored* the show for/to younger audiences.

— **tai-lored** /ˈteɪləd/ *adj* • He wore a nicely *tailored* suit.

— **tail-or-ing** /ˈteɪləɪŋ/ *noun* [noncount] • The store offers *free tailoring*.

tai-lor-made /ˈteɪləˈmeɪd/ *adj*

1 : made by a tailor • a *tailor-made* suit

2 : made or seeming to have been made for a particular person or purpose • The job is *tailor-made* [=perfect] for him.

tail-pipe /ˈteɪlˌpaɪp/ *noun*, *pl* **-pipes** [count] *chiefly* US : ²EXHAUST 2

tail-spin /ˈteɪlˌspɪn/ *noun* [singular]

1 : a condition in which an airplane is falling rapidly while turning around and around • The plane went into a *tailspin*. [=spin]

2 : a state in which something quickly becomes much worse • Stock prices are *in a tailspin*. • The team went *into a tailspin* and lost six straight games. • The news of his death sent her *into a tailspin*. [=caused her to become very unhappy, to lose control of her life, etc.]

tail-wind /ˈteɪlˌwɪnd/ *noun*, *pl* **-winds** [count] : a wind that blows in the same direction as something (such as a ship or an airplane) that is moving forward — compare HEADWIND

¹**taint** /ˈteɪnt/ *verb* **taints; taint-ed; taint-ing** [+ obj]

1 : to hurt or damage the good condition of (something) — often used as (be) *tainted* • The reputation of the university has been *tainted* [=blemished, marred] by athletic scandals. • Their relationship was *tainted* with/by suspicion.

2 : to make (something) dangerous or dirty especially by adding something harmful or undesirable to it • Bacteria had *tainted* [=contaminated, spoiled] the meat. — often used as (be) *tainted* • The water had been *tainted* by pesticides.

— **tainted** *adj* • *tainted* food

²**taint** *noun* [singular] : something that causes a person or thing to be thought of as bad, dishonest, etc. — usually + of • a political career damaged by the *taint* of scandal

¹**take** /teɪk/ *verb* **took** /ˈtʊk/; **tak-en** /ˈteɪkən/; **tak-ing**

1 [+ obj] **a** : to carry or move (something) to a place • She *took* her things to her room. • It looks like rain. You had better *take* an umbrella with you. **b** : to carry and give (some-

thing) to a person • *Take* this note to your teacher, please. = *Take* your teacher this note, please. **c** : to carry, move, or lead (someone) to a place • This bus *takes* you downtown. • Her office is down that hallway. I can *take* you there, if you want me to. • He was *taken* to the hospital by ambulance. • If you're going to the store, would you mind *taking* me (along) with you? • She *took* us for a ride in her new car. • He's not the kind of guy you can *take* home to meet your parents. • I *took* him *aside* [=to a place that is away from other people] and told him what had happened. • She *took* her child *to one/the side* and scolded him. — sometimes used figuratively • She *took* her team [=she helped her team go] to the state finals. • Her landlord threatened to *take her to court*. [=to start a lawsuit against her; to sue her] • He *took me to the cleaners*. [=he got most of my money in an unfair way]

usage The verbs *bring* and *take* are sometimes used in a way that shows that they have opposite meanings. When this is true, *bring* suggests that something is moving toward someone or something, and *take* suggests that something is moving away. • Here, I *brought* you some flowers. • May I *take* your luggage to your room for you?

2 [+ obj] : to begin to hold (someone or something) with your fingers, arms, etc. • I *took* the pen and signed my name. • *Take* the pan by the handle. • He *took* her by the hand. • He *took* her hand and looked into her eyes. • She *took* her son in her arms. [=she put her arms around him] • Please, *take* a free sample.

3 [+ obj] : to remove (something) from a place, a person's hand, etc. — often + *from* • She *took* the letter (*from* him) and read it aloud. • He *took* a beer *from* the fridge. • We'll have to *take* some blood *from* your arm.

4 [+ obj] **a** : to get (something) : to gain possession of (something) • Thieves *took* [=stole] the painting from the museum several years ago. • That man *took* my purse! • We will *take* [=seize, capture] the city at dawn. • Their land had been *taken* by force. • She *took* [=borrowed] her dad's car without his permission. • I accidentally *took* your jacket instead of mine. • Military leaders *took control* of the government in 2002. • I have my pride, and no one can *take that (away) from me*. [=no one can cause me to lose my pride] • I did all the work, and she *took the credit*. [=she allowed people to believe that she did the work] **b** : to claim (someone or something) as your own — usually used as (be) *taken* • “Excuse me. Is this chair free?” “No, I'm sorry. It's *taken*.” [=someone else is planning to sit in the chair] • (somewhat old-fashioned) She can't be your girlfriend because she's already *taken*. [=she is already someone else's girlfriend]

5 [+ obj] : to cause (someone) to be your prisoner • They *took* us as hostages. = They *took us hostage*. • Three soldiers were *taken prisoner/captive*.

6 [+ obj] : to cause (someone) to die • She was *taken* [=she died] in her prime. : to cause (someone's life) to end • The plane crash *took the lives* of all the people on board. • He *took his own life*. [=he killed himself]

7 [+ obj] **a** : to borrow or use (a phrase, an idea, etc., that was created by a different person or used in a different place) — usually + *from* • a quotation *taken from* Shakespeare • The album's title is *taken from* [=it is the same as] a line in the album's first song. • The builders *took* their inspiration *from* [=the builders were inspired by] the Acropolis in Athens. **b** : to begin to have (a particular shape or form) • The college *took* its present form after World War II. • The plan is finally starting to *take form/shape*. [=to have a definite arrangement]

8 [+ obj] : to choose to have (something) • He'll have the fish and I'll *take* the chicken. • Do you *take* cream in your coffee? • You can have either one. *Take your pick*. [=choose whichever one you want]

9 [+ obj] **a** : to accept or receive (something) as payment or as a response • Do you *take* credit cards? • an elected official accused of *taking* bribes • (Brit) The restaurant *took* [= (US) *took in*] an enormous amount of money in its first week of business. • I was hoping they would pay me more, but at this point I'll *take what I can get*. • I insist that you come to my party, and I *won't take no for an answer*! **b** : to accept (something, such as blame, credit, or responsibility) • I *take* full responsibility for what happened. • No one else was willing to *take* the blame/rap (for what happened). • I did the work and he *took* all the credit.

10 [+ obj] : to allow (someone) to join a club, to attend a school, to become part of a relationship, etc. • The school *takes* [=admits] just 20 students a year. • The doctor's office is

not *taking* [=accepting] any new patients. • (old-fashioned) It is time for you to **take a wife/husband**. [=to get married] — see also TAKE ON (below)

11 [+ *obj*] : to be able to hold (a number of people or things) : to have enough room for (something) • I think the elevator will **take** a few more people.

12 [+ *obj*] **a** : to need or require (something) • What size shoe do you **take**? • It **took** four people to move the couch. • What would it **take** to get you to buy this car? • It will **take** several years to finish the bridge. = The bridge will **take** several years to finish. • Do you **have what it takes** [=do you have the skills and personality] to do this job? • The new color is nice, but **it'll take some getting used to**. [=I will need to get used to it] • Be patient. These things **take (a lot of) time**. [=a lot of time needs to pass before they happen or are finished] • Keeping everyone happy does **take a lot of doing**. = It **takes some doing**. [=it requires a lot of work] **b** ♦ The phrases **it takes two** and **it takes two to tango** are used to say that two people or groups are needed in order to do something. • Both of you should be punished for fighting. **It takes two**, you know. • We'd like to continue negotiating, but **it takes two to tango**—we can't solve this problem by ourselves.

13 [+ *obj*] : to do or perform (something) • Let's **take** a walk. [=let's walk] • He's **taking** a shower [=he's showering] upstairs. • **Take** a look/peek/gander at this. • How old do you think I am? **Take** a guess. • The kids **take** their naps around one o'clock. • He **took** a bite of his sandwich. • **Take** a deep breath and try to calm down. • We are **taking** a tour of the building tomorrow. • They **took** a pledge never to tell anyone their secret. • It's time for you to **take a stand** [=to express your opinion] and tell them that things need to change.

14 [+ *obj*] : to get (a drug, pill, etc.) into your body by swallowing it, breathing it in, etc. • **Take** one of these pills in the morning and one before bedtime. • She refuses to **take** her medicine. • She stopped **taking drugs** [=she stopped using illegal drugs] years ago.

15 [+ *obj*] : to sit or stand in (a particular place) : to move into position on (a stage, field, etc.) • Please **take** a seat. [=please sit down] • I **took** my place next to her at the table. • The actors **took** their places on the stage. • They **took** the stage for their final bow. • The home team is now **taking** the field. • Will the next witness please **take** the stand? • She **took** the witness stand. • The senator from Nevada would now like to **take the floor**. [=to begin speaking at a public meeting]

16 [+ *obj*] : to create or record (a picture or image) • She **took** our picture in front of the waterfall. • Our new camera **takes** beautiful pictures. • The doctor wants to **take** an X-ray of your leg. • They arrested him and **took** his fingerprints.

17 [+ *obj*] **a** : to find out (a person's temperature, height, etc.) • The last time we **took** his temperature, it was 102 degrees. • The nurse weighed me and **took** my blood pressure. • Before the seamstress can make your dress, she has to **take** your measurements. **b** : to find out and write down (information) • He **took** my name and number and said he would call me back. **c** : to create (a list or a record of information) • I can't come to class today. Would you mind **taking** notes for me? • The census we **took** last year shows that our population is growing very rapidly. • We **took** an inventory at the store yesterday to find out what we need to order.

18 [+ *obj*] **a** : to travel using (a road, vehicle, etc.) • We **took** the highway into the city. • She had to **take** a different route home. • He **takes** the subway to work. **b** : to turn toward (a particular direction) • **Take** a right [=turn right] at the next stop light. • **Take** your first left and go straight for a mile. • We **took a wrong turn** [=went the wrong way; turned in the wrong direction] and got lost.

19 [+ *obj*] : to move on or over (something) in a particular way • He **took** the stairs [=went up/down the stairs] two at a time. • She **took** the curve too fast and the car skidded.

20 [+ *obj*] **a** : to agree to do or have (a job, role, etc.) • He **took** a job as a janitor at the high school. • She hasn't decided if she is going to **take** the position or not. • I **took** a few overtime shifts this month. • He **took** the role of Romeo in the play. • She says that parents should be **taking** a more active role in their children's education. [=should be more actively involved in their children's education] • The former governor **took office** [=became governor] in 1998. • She was the first woman to **take her seat** [=to begin her official duties as a member] in Parliament. **b** *Brit* : to teach (a person or class) or lead (a religious service) • The new teacher **took** us for English. • She **took** a class of eight children. • The vicar won't be able to **take** the early service.

21 [+ *obj*] : to study (a subject) or participate in (a class) as a

student • Her parents made her **take** piano lessons when she was 10. • He **takes** both French and Spanish. • I **took** five classes last semester. • I'm **taking** a course on world history.

22 [+ *obj*] : to complete (a test or exam) • If you fail the first time, you have to **take** the test again.

23 [+ *obj*] *of a machine* : to use or need (something) in order to work • What size batteries does the flashlight **take**? • a car that **takes** diesel

24 [+ *obj*] : to use (something) for a particular purpose • The team's coaches decided to **take** another approach. • Let me **take** this opportunity to thank everyone for coming. • Harsh measures were **taken** to reduce crime in the city. • I suggest you **take** his advice. • They never **took the time** [=bothered] to get to know her.

25 [+ *obj*] : to accept (the power to deal with something) : to accept control of (something) • She was chosen to **take charge/control** of the organization. • I'll get you started, and you **take it** [=take over] from there. • Citizens are discouraged from **taking the law into their own hands**. [=punishing people for breaking laws even though they have no right to punish them]

26 [+ *obj*] *Brit* : to make (a decision) with authority • The committee will **take** [=make] their decision next week.

27 [+ *obj*] : to deal with or consider (something) • The governor will give a statement and then **take** questions from reporters. • Will you **take** this call? • Cases will be **taken** in order of importance. • Let's **take first things first**. • We'll see what happens and **take it as it comes**. • I'll need a long time to recover, so I'm just **taking (it) one day at a time**.

28 [+ *obj*] **a** : to understand or think about (something or someone) in a certain way • I don't quite know how to **take** that comment. • He said that I was full-figured, and I **took** it as a compliment. • No one **took** her literally/seriously when she said that she was going to quit. • He **takes** himself too seriously. • He says unkind things to everyone. Try not to **take it personally**. [=to be offended or upset by what he said] • **Don't take this the wrong way** [=do not be offended by this], but I think you could find a better boyfriend. • When it started to rain, we **took it as a sign** [=we believed that the rain was a sign] that we should go home. • Can't you **take a hint**? [=understand that I am trying to give you a hint?] • I **take it** [=more formally] *assume, suppose* that you didn't get my message. • So, you're staying here, I **take it**. • I know it's just gossip, so I **take it for what it's worth**. [=I do not strongly believe that it is true or important] **b** : to react to (someone or something) in a certain way • I was surprised by how well she **took** the news. • He **took** it pretty badly/hard [=he was very upset] when his dog died. • She doesn't **take** such things lightly. [=she acts as though such things are very important]

29 [+ *obj*] : to think about (something or someone) as an example • They just want attention. For instance, **take** the way they wear their hair. • **Take** last year's record high temperatures, for example. • The system isn't working properly. **Take** the case of Jane Smith.

30 [+ *obj*] : to think of (someone or something) as a particular type of person or thing — usually + *for* • Oh, you're not Jill. Excuse me. I **took** you *for* [=mistakenly thought you were] an old friend of mine. • Of course we know how to do it. **Do you take us for** idiots? [=do you think we are idiots?] • "Can you finish everything in two hours?" "Two hours?" **Who do you take me for?** Superman?" [=do you think I'm Superman?]

31 [+ *obj*] : to believe (something that someone tells you) • **Take it from me**. [=believe me] He would love to go to the concert with you. • Okay, I'll **take your word for it**. [=I will believe that what you say is true] • You don't have to **take my word for it**. Ask him yourself. • She **can't take a compliment**. [=she does not believe that the nice things said about her are true]

32 [+ *obj*] **a** : to begin to have (an opinion, interest, etc.) • She has yet to **take** a position on the issue. • The program inspires young people to **take** an interest [=become interested] in current events. • They **take a dim view** [=have a negative opinion] of the country's current foreign policy. • She **took a dim view** of his behavior. **b** : to ask people to make choices or give opinions in (a vote, poll, etc.) • They **took** a survey of shoppers to find out which brands people liked best. • I think we should **take** a vote [=should vote] about what to do.

33 **a** [+ *obj*] : to feel or experience (an emotion) • Please don't **take** offense. [=please don't be offended] • Investors **took fright** [=suddenly became afraid] at the news and pulled their money. — often + *in* or *to* • His grandparents **took** special pleasure *in* [=were very pleased by] seeing him graduate

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from college. • It's important to *take pride in* your work. • I *take* comfort/solace *in* the fact that others have had to go through the same thing. • She *takes* an instant dislike *to* [=she instantly dislikes] anyone who tries to sell her something. **b** ♦ If you *are taken ill/sick* or (US) *take ill/sick*, you suddenly become ill. • He and I both *took ill* after eating the fish. • Several other customers also *were taken ill/sick*.

34 [+ *obj*] **a** : to experience or be affected by (something unpleasant) • Everyone will have to *take* a pay cut. • She had to *take* a two-stroke penalty. • The ship sunk after *taking* [=sustaining] a direct hit. • He *took* several punches to the head. • He *took* quite a beating. • "Take that," she said as she slapped him in the face. **b** : to experience (something bad or unpleasant) without being seriously harmed • These shoes have *taken* [=withstood] a lot of punishment. — often used in negative statements • These plants can't *take* [=tolerate] the cold. • You no longer have to *take* [=endure] the pain of arthritis. — sometimes used in an exaggerated way • What happens next? I can't *take* the suspense. • I can't *take* this noise anymore! **c** : to accept the difficulty or unpleasantness of (something or someone) without complaining or making changes • I wouldn't *take* [=tolerate] that kind of rudeness from anyone. • I'm not going to *take* it anymore! • Are you just going to sit there and *take* it? • Don't *take* it *lying down*. Do something about it. • I thought she would be upset, but she's *taking it in stride*. [=not upset about it] • Stop crying and *take it like a man*. • I wasn't being serious. Can't you *take a joke*? [=can't you laugh at a joke that is about you?] • He's a little *hard to take* sometimes. [=he is sometimes a little rude, annoying, etc.]

35 [+ *obj*] : to become known by (someone) in a certain way • Her reaction *took me by surprise*. [=surprised me] • The latest band *taking the country by storm* [=quickly becoming very popular throughout the country] is a Swedish group.

36 [+ *obj*] : to be liked or enjoyed by (someone) : to delight (someone) — used as (be) *taken*; usually + *with* or *by* • He *was* quite *taken with* her at their first meeting. • None of us *was* completely *taken with* the idea of staying there for an entire month. • The critic *was* so *taken by* the restaurant that she gave it four stars out of a possible five.

37 [+ *obj*] : to be the cause of (damage, suffering, etc.) • She vowed to *take* (her) revenge against him. • She swore that she would *take* vengeance on him. • The storm *took* its toll. [=the storm did a lot of damage] • A war could *take* a terrible toll on the economy.

38 [+ *obj*] **a** : to win or get (something) in a game, contest, etc. • She sang well enough to *take* first prize in her high school's talent contest. • He *took* second place behind last year's winner. • They *took* an 8–6 lead in the seventh inning. • The number 20 car *took* the lead with one lap to go. • They *took home* the championship for the third year in a row. • Let's play one more round. *Winner takes all*. [=the winner of this round will win the whole contest] **b** : to beat or defeat (someone) in a game, fight, etc. • She *took* her opponent in the second round. • He's not that big. I think I can *take* him.

39 [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone or something) to move to a particular level or area of activity • They decided to *take* the company public. • Are you ready to *take* your business to the next level? • When *taken* to extremes, their philosophy can have negative consequences.

40 [+ *obj*] : to go to a safe or calm place for (shelter, cover, etc.) • If it rains, we can *take* shelter in the clubhouse. • Here come the bombers! *Take cover!* • a quiet place to *take* refuge

41 [no *obj*] : to be effective or become established • Clearly, the lesson he had tried to teach them didn't *take*. [=they didn't learn the lesson] • We are waiting to see if the heart transplant *takes*.

42 [+ *obj*] : to be able to have (something) when treated in a particular way • a surface that *takes* a fine/high polish

43 [+ *obj*] *grammar* : to appear or be used with (something) • Transitive verbs *take* an object while intransitive verbs do not. • Most words that end in "sh," such as "brush" and "wish," *take* "es" in their plural forms.

44 [+ *obj*] *mathematics* : SUBTRACT — often + *away* • When you *take* two (away) from five you get three.

In addition to the phrases shown below, *take* occurs in many idioms that are shown at appropriate entries throughout the dictionary. For example, *take a backseat* can be found at BACKSEAT and *take the cake* can be found at CAKE.

take aback [*phrasal verb*] *take* (someone) *aback* : to surprise or shock (someone) — usually used as (be) *taken aback* •

When I told him my answer, he seemed *taken aback*. [=shocked] — often + *by* • He *was taken aback by* her answer.

take action : to do something : to act in order to get a particular result • The committee is ready to *take action*. • If we fail to *take action* [=fail to act], many innocent people could be hurt. • She is threatening to *take legal action* against the company. [=threatening to sue the company]

take after [*phrasal verb*] *take after* (someone) : to be like (someone, such as a parent) : to resemble (someone) • He *takes after* his father in height and build. • "She's such a sweet child." "Yes. She *takes after* her mother."

take against [*phrasal verb*] *take against* (someone or something) *Brit*, somewhat old-fashioned : to begin to dislike (someone or something) • They *took against* her for no apparent reason.

take a lot out of you ♦ If something *takes a lot out of you* or (Brit) *takes it out of you*, it requires a lot of work or energy and causes you to feel physically or emotionally tired. • That interview really *took a lot out of me*.

take apart [*phrasal verb*] **1** *take apart* (something) or *take* (something) *apart* : to remove or separate the parts of (something) • They practiced *taking apart* [=disassembling] their rifles and putting them back together again. • Help me *take* this puzzle *apart*. **2** *take apart* (something) or *take* (something) *apart* : to talk about the different parts of (an idea, story, etc.) often in order to criticize it • He *takes apart* the theory and shows its weaknesses. **3** *take apart* (someone) or *take* (someone) *apart* chiefly *Brit* : to badly beat (a person or team) in a game or contest • The champion really *took* the challenger *apart* in the second round.

take away [*phrasal verb*] **1** *take away* (someone or something) or *take* (someone or something) *away* : to remove (someone or something) : to cause (someone or something) to go away, to no longer exist, to no longer be held, etc. • "Take him *away*!" said the queen. • He was trying to *take* the ball *away* from the dog. • A new store would *take* business *away* from existing stores in the area. • Her parents threatened to *take away* her driving privileges. • If you *take away* [=if you do not consider] his fancy clothes, he's a rather ordinary person. • The beautiful new theater *took my breath away*. [=it made me feel surprised and excited] **2** *take away* (something) or *take* (something) *away* **a** : to remember (something) for possible use in the future — usually + *from* • What lesson can we *take away from* this? **b** *Brit* : to buy (food that is cooked in a restaurant) and carry it to another place • We sell hot food to *take away*. [= (US) we sell hot food for takeout] **3** *take it away* informal : to start playing or singing music • *Take it away*, Annie! **4** *take away from* [*phrasal verb*] *take away from* (something) : to reduce the value or importance of (something) • The ugly door *takes away from* [=detracts from] the beauty of the house. • She made a few mistakes during her speech, but that didn't *take away from* her overall message. — see also TAKE 44 (above)

take back [*phrasal verb*] **1** *take back* (someone or something) or *take* (someone or something) *back* **a** : to return (something or someone) • If you bought any of these toys, *take* them *back* to the store for a full refund. • Waiter, this soup is terrible. Please *take* it *back*. [=return it to the kitchen] • I *took* him *back* to his apartment. **b** : to accept or receive (someone or something) again • They wouldn't *take back* the dress because I didn't have the receipt. • His wife left him but he decided to *take* her *back*. **2** *take* (someone) *back* : to cause (someone) to remember a time or event — usually + *to* • This meal *takes* me *back to* [=it makes me remember] our vacation in Mexico. • a song that *takes* you *back to* your childhood **3** *take back* (something) or *take* (something) *back* : to say that you did not really mean (something that you said) • My mom is not fat! *Take* it *back*! • He refused to *take back* what he said.

take down [*phrasal verb*] *take down* (something) or *take* (something) *down* **1** : to remove (something) from the place where it is hanging or standing • She *took* the books *down* from the shelf. • I need to *take down* those curtains and bring them to the dry cleaner's. • *Take down* that terrible picture of me. • Please, *take* it *down*. • He *took down* the old shed and built a new one. **2** : to lower but not remove (something) • The doctor asked him to *take down* [=pull down] his pants. **3** : to write (something) • He *took* her phone number *down* on a napkin. • Did you *take down* the car's license number?

take in [*phrasal verb*] **1** *take in* (someone) or *take* (some-

one) in **a** : to allow (a person or animal) to stay in your house, hotel, etc. • The family started *taking in* boarders to make ends meet. • The homeless shelter *takes in* women and children. • They agreed to *take him in* for the summer. • *taking in* stray cats **b** : to take (someone) to a police station • The police *took him in* for driving while drunk. • The suspects were *taken in* for questioning. **c** : to trick or deceive (someone) — often used as *(be) taken in* • He was *taken in* by a man who said he was collecting money for a charity. **2 take in (something) or take (something) in** **a** : to make (a piece of clothing) smaller or shorter • I lost weight and had to *take in* my pants. • I had to *take them in* at the waist. — opposite *let out* at ¹LET **b US** : to receive (something) as payment or earnings • The restaurant has been *taking in* [= *(Brit) taking*] thousands of dollars a night. • They couldn't *take* enough money *in* to stay in business. **c** : to allow (water, air, etc.) to enter your body • She stood on the shore *taking in* the salty sea air. **d** : to look at and think about (something) • We spent the hour talking and *taking in* the view. • You'll have plenty of time to *take in* all the sights. **e** : to learn about and try to understand (something) • We paused to *take in* the situation. • It's hard to *take* all this information *in* at once. • We need to *take in* all the options before making a decision. **f** : to watch (a show, game, etc.) • If we have time after dinner, I thought maybe we could *take in* a movie. **g** : to include (a place) among the places that you go to • Our trip to New York City will *take in* several museums. = We will *take in* [= *visit*] several museums on our trip to New York City.

take it or leave it **1** — used to say that you will not make a better offer than the one you have made • I'll give you \$500 for the camera, but that's my final offer. *Take it or leave it.*

2 — used to say that you do not care about or are not excited about something • "Do you like lobster?" "I can *take it or leave it.*" [= I neither strongly like nor dislike lobster]

take it upon/on yourself : to do something that needs to be done even though no one has asked you to do it • Thank you for *taking it upon yourself* to organize the meeting.

take long : to require or use a long amount of time • It didn't *take long* to realize that something was wrong. • Hurry up. You're *taking too long*. • What's *taking so long*?

take note or take notice : to notice or pay attention to something • The news made them *sit up and take notice*. [= suddenly give full attention to something] — often + *of* • She *took note of* [= *noted*] the exact time. • No one remembers *taking notice of* her [= no one remembers noticing her] at the party.

take off [phrasal verb] **1 a** : to suddenly go somewhere • She *took off* without even saying goodbye. • Where did you *take off to*? [= where did you go?] **b take off after (someone or something) US** : to start to move quickly in order to catch (someone or something) • If my dog sees a cat, she'll *take off after* [= *chase*] it. • He jumped in his car and *took off after* them. **2** : to begin to fly • Please sit down. The plane's about to *take off*. • They *took off* and landed safely. **3** : to quickly become very successful or popular • Her career *took off* after she won an Oscar for best supporting actress. • Our business is really starting to *take off*. **4 take off (something) or take (something) off** **a** : to remove (something) • I *took* my boots *off* and put on some slippers. • Always *take off* your makeup before going to bed. • *Take that* smile *off* your face! [= stop smiling] • This new diet will *take inches off* your waist and hips. • Please *take your hands off* me. [= stop touching or holding me] • I can't *take my eyes off* [= I cannot stop looking at] that beautiful ring of yours! • Hiring more teachers would help *take the pressure off* [= reduce the amount of stress felt by] our staff. • Her show was *taken off the air* [= it was no longer shown on TV] after three seasons. • The toy was *taken off the market* [= it was stopped from being sold] for safety reasons. **b** : to reduce the price of something by (a specified amount) • You can *take 20 percent off* everything in the store. • They *took \$3,000 off* the original price of the car. **c** : to spend (an amount of time) away from a job or activity • He *took* the day *off* and went to the beach. • I *took* two weeks *off* (work) to visit my family. • I haven't *taken* any time *off* yet this year. **5 take (someone) off (something)** **a** : to tell (someone) to stop using (something, such as a medicine) • The doctor *took* her *off* the drug and put her on a new one. • He *took* himself *off* his medication. [= he stopped using it] • *taking* a patient *off* a ventilator **b** : to tell (someone) to no longer work on (something) • The newspaper's editor *took* her *off* the story. • He was *taken off* the project. **6 take off**

(someone) or take (someone) off Brit : to copy (someone) usually in order to make other people laugh • He can *take off* [= *mimic, imitate*] our teacher perfectly. — see also TAKEOFF

take on [phrasal verb] **1 take on (something) or take (something) on** **a** : to begin to deal with (something, such as a job or responsibility) • I don't have time to *take on* any new responsibilities right now. • We are depending on you to *take on* this important assignment. • Her willingness to *take on* new challenges is admirable. **b** : to begin to have (a particular quality or appearance) • Her writings *took on* new meaning after her death. • In the evening, the plaza *takes on* a different air/aura. • stories in which animals *take on* human attributes • The story was broadcast throughout the world and began to *take on a life of its own*. [= to become very large, important, and hard to control] • The story has *taken on mythic proportions*. [= it has become very famous or important] **2 take on (someone or something) or take (someone or something) on** **a** : to fight or struggle with (someone or something) • Police have been *taking on* the neighborhood's drug dealers. • She's not afraid to *take on* her critics/detractors directly. • They will need lots of money and resources to *take on* the tobacco companies. : to criticize or argue against (someone or something) • She *takes on* the country's current foreign policy in her new book. • *taking on* sexism in the music industry **b** : to compete against (a person, team, etc.) • The Yankees are set to *take on* the Red Sox at Yankee Stadium tonight. • She *took* him *on* in a game of tennis. **c** : to allow (someone or something) to enter • The train *took on* a few more passengers before leaving the city. • The ship sprung a leak and began to *take on* water. [= water began getting into the ship] **3 take on (someone) or take (someone) on** : to accept (someone) as an employee, client, etc. • I'm sorry, but the doctor isn't *taking on* [= *taking*] any new patients. • She agreed to *take* him *on* as an assistant.

take out [phrasal verb] **1 take (something) out or take out (something)** **a** : to remove (something) from a thing, place, or person • She had her tonsils *taken out* when she was ten years old. • Remove the board and *take out* all the nails. : to move (something) from the place that held, enclosed, or hid it • Please *take out* a pencil and begin the test. • Please *take* your homework *out*. • I forgot to *take out* the garbage [= to bring it outside] this morning. **b** : to get (something, such as insurance, a loan, etc.) by a standard process or series of steps : to make the arrangements, payments, etc., that are required for (something) • All drivers in the state must *take out* insurance on their vehicles. • They had to *take out* a second mortgage on their home. • They *took out* ads in several magazines and newspapers. **c** : to borrow or rent (something) from a store, library, etc. • She *took out* a couple of books from the library. **d** : to destroy (something) • Our mission is to *take out* two enemy targets. • She swerved off the road and *took out* a telephone pole. **2 take (someone) out or take out (someone)** **a** : to go with (someone you have invited) to a restaurant, party, etc. • Can I *take* you *out* sometime? • teenagers *taking* each other *out* on dates • They *took* us *out* for/to lunch. **b** : to cause (a person or team) to no longer be part of a competition • He *took* his opponent *out* in the first 60 seconds of the match. • Our team was *taken out* in the second round of competition. **3 take (something) out on (someone)** ✧ If you *take your anger, frustration, etc., out on* someone, you treat someone badly because you feel angry, frustrated, etc. • workers who go home and *take* their frustration *out* on their families • I'm sorry you didn't get the job, but don't *take it out* on me. [= don't treat me badly because you are disappointed] — see also TAKEOUT

take over [phrasal verb] **take over or take over (something) or take (something) over** **1** : to start doing (something that someone has stopped doing) • Here, you *take over* stirring the soup while I start making the salad. • *Take over* for me for a while. **2** : to become the person who has control of (something) • Since she has *taken over* the company, productivity and profits have soared. • Military leaders *took over* the government in 2002. • They *took over* in 2002. — see also TAKEOVER

take sides or take someone's side : to agree with or support one person or group and not another • She refuses to *take sides* on the issue. • When my sister and I fight, our dad always *takes her side*. • Why do you always *take her side*? • The government responded by *taking the side of* the consumer.

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take through [phrasal verb] **take (someone) through (something)** : to tell (someone) how (something) happens or is done by explaining the details of each step • I asked him to *take* [=lead, walk] me *through* his daily exercise regimen. • *Take* me *through* that day hour by hour. [=tell me what happened each hour of that day]

take to [phrasal verb] **1 take to (something)** : to go to or into (a place) • They grabbed their weapons and *took to* the hills. • Thousands of people *took to* the streets in protest. [=went out into the streets to protest] • He *took to the airwaves* [=he spoke on the radio] with his message. **2 take to (someone or something)** : to begin to like (someone or something) • I *took to* her as soon as she smiled at me. • Many students have not *taken well to* the new school uniforms. • He tried skiing and *took to* it immediately. [=he quickly learned how to ski and liked doing it] • She *took to* horseback riding like a duck (takes) to water. [=she learned it in a very easy and natural way] • (informal) They don't *take kindly to* strangers [=they don't like strangers] around here. **3 take to (doing something)** : to begin (doing something) as a habit • He *took to* drinking after he lost his job. • She had *taken to* sleeping on the floor. • We've *taken to* calling him "Mr. Dependable." **4 take (something) to (someone or something)** : to use (something) to do something to (someone or something) • Someone needs to *take* a mop *to* this floor. [=someone needs to mop this floor] • I *took* an ax *to* the dead tree in front of my house. [=I cut down the dead tree with an ax] • He was criticized for *taking* a belt *to* his children. [=hitting his children with a belt]

take up [phrasal verb] **1 take up or take up (something) or take (something) up** : to begin (something) again : to continue (something) after you or another person stops • She *took up* [=picked up] the story where he left off. • He is hoping that he and his ex-girlfriend can *take up* [=that they can continue their relationship] where they left off. **2 take up (something)** : to fill (an area, amount of time, etc.) completely or almost completely • The new couch *takes up* half of the room. • I don't want to *take up* too much of your time, but I do have a few questions. • The entire day was *taken up* by/with meetings. • We don't use this table for anything. It's just *taking up* space. **3 take up (something) or take (something) up** **a** : to begin studying or practicing (an activity, subject, instrument, etc.) usually as a hobby • I was thinking about *taking up* skiing/dancing/photography. • She *took up* the guitar at age 11. • *taking up* art lessons **b** : to begin to deal with (a problem, an issue, etc.) • The cause of global warming has been *taken up* by many celebrities recently. • The court *took up* the question of how to deal with companies that break the law. • He seemed willing to *take up* [=take on] the challenge. **c** : to begin to have (a new job, home, etc.) • He will *take up* his post [=begin working at his new post/job] at the beginning of the year. • She went to France and *took up* residence in Paris. [=became a resident of Paris; began living in Paris] • She *took up* [=she began to lead] the life of an artist. = She *took up* life as an artist. • Two men with guns had *taken up* (their) positions on the roof. **d somewhat old-fashioned** : to begin to use (something) • They *took up* hammers and nails and went to work building the house. • Once again, they *took up arms* [=picked up weapons and became ready to fight] to defend their country. **e** : to make (something, such as a piece of clothing) shorter • Can you *take* the legs of these pants *up* two inches? **f** : to lift and remove (something) • We *took up* the carpet in the living room and replaced it with hardwood flooring. **g** : to gather (money, clothes, etc.) from many different people or places • They are *taking up* a collection for the homeless shelter. **4 take (someone) up on (something)** : to make an agreement with (someone) to accept (an offer) • "Can I buy you a drink?" "Sure, I'll *take you up on* that." • We *took* the company *up on* its offer to replace the computer for free. **5 take (something) up with (someone)** : to talk about (something, such as a problem) with (someone) • If you have a problem, please *take it up with* one of our managers. • Have you *taken this up with* your mother yet? **6 take up with (someone)** : to begin a friendly or romantic relationship with (someone) • After her divorce, she *took up with* a younger man. — see also TAKE-UP

— see also GIVE-AND-TAKE

2take noun, pl **takes** [count]

1 a : the way that a particular person thinks about or understands something : a distinct point of view — often + on •

What's your *take on* what happened? [=what do you think about what happened?] • I had a different *take on* the experience. • She has an unusual *take on* life. **b** : a particular way of dealing with or treating something — usually + on • Audiences seem to be enjoying the film's modern *take on* Dickens' famous story. • a new *take on* an old problem

2 : a scene that is filmed or a song that is recorded at one time without stopping • It took us 20 *takes* to get the scene right. • She nailed it on the first *take*.

3 informal a : the amount of money that is earned or received • He stands to earn 10 percent of the company's \$1 million *take on* the deal. **b** : a share or percentage of an amount of money • She was expecting a bigger *take*.

on the take informal : illegally taking money for doing favors for someone : illegally accepting bribes • We've heard rumors that the senator is *on the take*.

— see also DOUBLE TAKE

take-away /'teikə,wei/ noun, pl **-aways**

1 Brit a [noncount] : TAKEOUT 1 • We ordered some Chinese *takeaway*. **b** [count] : TAKEOUT 2 • She works in a Chinese *takeaway*.

2 [count] sports : an act of taking the ball or puck from a player on the other team • He leads the league in *takeaways*.

— **takeaway** adj, always used before a noun, Brit • *takeaway* food • a *takeaway* restaurant

take-charge /'teik'tʃɑ:dʒ/ adj, always used before a noun, chiefly US, informal : having the qualities of a forceful leader : able to make decisions in a confident way and then act on them • a *take-charge* attitude • a *take-charge* guy/woman

take-home pay /'teik,həum-/ noun [noncount] : the amount of money that a person earns after taxes and other amounts have been subtracted • She grosses \$40,000 a year but her *take-home pay* is about \$25,000.

taken past participle of ¹TAKE

take-no-prisoners adj, always used before a noun, US, informal : very tough and aggressive • *take-no-prisoners* politics • a journalist with a *take-no-prisoners* style — see also *take no prisoners* at PRISONER

take-off /'teik,ɑ:f/ noun, pl **-offs**

1 : the moment when an airplane, helicopter, etc., leaves the ground and begins to fly [noncount] Please remain seated during *takeoff*. • Air Force One, you're ready for *takeoff*. [count] perfect *takeoffs* and landings

2 [count] : the beginning of a jump • All the high jumpers had flawless *takeoffs*.

3 [count] : a sudden increase in size, activity, or popularity • the country's economic *takeoff*

4 [count] : a new or unusual way of making or doing something • an interesting *takeoff* on traditional lasagna

5 [count] **a** : a performance in which someone copies the way another person speaks, moves, etc., in usually a humorous way • He did a perfect *takeoff* [=imitation, impression] of our teacher. **b** chiefly US : a piece of writing, music, etc., that imitates the style of someone or something else in an amusing way : PARODY • They did a funny *takeoff* on/of a quiz show.

— see also *take off* at ¹TAKE

take-out /'teik,aut/ noun, pl **-outs** US

1 [noncount] : food that is cooked in a restaurant and taken by a customer to be eaten in another place • We ordered some Chinese *takeout*. — called also (chiefly US) *carryout*, (Brit) *takeaway*

2 [count] : a restaurant that sells takeout • She works in a Chinese *takeout*. — called also (chiefly US) *carryout*, (Brit) *takeaway*

— **take-out** adj, always used before a noun, US • *take-out* food • a *take-out* restaurant

take-over /'teik,əʊvə/ noun, pl **-overs** [count] : an occurrence in which a person, company, etc., takes control of something • The government experienced a military *takeover* in 2002. • *takeover* bids • The company was trying to protect itself from a *hostile takeover*. [=an attempt to buy a company when the people who own the company do not want to sell it] — see also *take over* at ¹TAKE

tak-er /'teikə/ noun, pl **-ers** [count]

1 : a person who takes something • He's more of a giver than a *taker*. [=he likes to give rather than receive things] • She's not much of a risk *taker*. [=she does not like to take risks] • I'm a terrible test *taker*. • a poll *taker* • ticket *takers*

2 informal : a person who accepts something that is offered • The class had no *takers*. [=no one took the class] • I have two tickets for sale. Any *takers*?

take-up /ˈteɪk,ʌp/ *noun* [singular] *Brit* : the rate at which something offered is accepted by people • Fewer French classes are being offered due to low *take-up*. • *Take-up* of our products has been high. — see also *take up* at ¹TAKE

tak-ings /ˈteɪkɪŋz/ *noun* [plural] *chiefly Brit* : the amount of money that is earned : TAKE • They will donate half of the *takings* to charity. • box office *takings*

talc /ˈtælk/ *noun* [noncount] : TALCUM POWDER

talcum powder /ˈtælkəm-/ *noun* [noncount] : a soft, white powder that is used to make your skin feel dry and smooth

tale /ˈteɪl/ *noun*, *pl* *tales* [count]

1 : a story about imaginary events : an exciting or dramatic story • The movie is a stirring *tale* of courage. • *tales* about ghosts — see also FAIRY TALE, FOLKTALE

2 a : a story about someone's actual experiences • We listened to his familiar *tale of woe/misfortune* as he talked again about the failure of his marriage. **b** : an exciting story that may not be completely true • He told us thrilling *tales* about his adventures as a pilot in the war. — see also TALL TALE

3 : a false story that is told to deceive someone • Are you telling *tales* again? Or is that the truth?

dead men tell no tales — used to say that someone who has been killed cannot reveal secret information

thereby hangs a tale see ¹HANG

— see also OLD WIVES' TALE

tal-ent /ˈtælənt/ *noun*, *pl* *-ents*

1 : a special ability that allows someone to do something well [noncount] a singer with an enormous amount of *talent* • I have no musical *talent*. • Her artistic/creative *talent* has been obvious ever since she was a child. • athletic *talent* • a person of *talent* = a person who has *talent* • They sang a duet in the *talent show/contest*. [count] She has a job that makes the most of her *talents*. • His experience, skills, and *talents* make him perfectly suited for the job. • He has many *talents*. = He's a man of many *talents*. • He seems to have a *talent* for getting into trouble. [=he often gets into trouble]

2 : a person or group of people with a special ability to do something well : a talented person or group [count] There are many good players on the team, but she's a special *talent*. [noncount] The company has hired some expensive legal *tal-ent* for the trial. • The team has recruited some of the best *talent* around. • The company is doing a *talent search* to find the right person for the job.

3 [noncount] *Brit slang* : people who are sexually attractive • checking out the local *talent*

tal-ent-ed /ˈtæləntəd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : having a special ability to do something well : having talent • a very/highly *talented* actor/musician/singer/athlete • As a writer, she is enormously *talented*.

tal-ent-less /ˈtæləntləs/ *adj* : lacking talent : not at all talented • a *talentless* singer/athlete

talent scout *noun*, *pl* ~ *scouts* [count] : a person whose job is to find talented performers, athletes, etc. — called also (*Brit*) *talent spotter*

tal-is-man /ˈtæləsmən/ *noun*, *pl* *-mans* [count] : an object (such as a ring or stone) that is believed to have magic powers and to cause good things to happen to the person who has it

¹talk /ˈtɑ:k/ *verb* *talks*; *talked*; *talk-ing*

1 a : to say words in order to express your thoughts, feelings, opinions, etc., to someone [no obj] She never *talks* at the meetings. • He did most of the *talk-ing* during dinner. • He loves to hear himself *talk*. — often + *to* • You shouldn't *talk to* your mother that way. — often + *about* • She still *talks about* your wedding and how perfect it was. [+ obj] I think she's *talk-ing* a lot of nonsense/rubbish/drivel. • You should listen to her; she's *talk-ing* (good) sense. [=she's saying sensible things] **b** [no obj] : to have a conversation or discussion with someone • We need to *talk*. • I can't *talk* right now. I'm running late. • They were *talk-ing* in Spanish. • We *talked* on the phone until midnight. • Both sides in the dispute are now willing to *talk*. — often + *to* • They *talked to* each other in a whisper. • Who were you *talk-ing to* on the phone? • I could hear her *talk-ing to* herself as she studied. — often + *with* • The coach refused to *talk with* the reporters. • May I *talk with* you privately? — often + *about* • You might feel better if you *talked to* someone *about* your problems. • The teacher *talked with* him *about* his poor grades. • When they get together, all they do is *talk about* sports. **c** [+ obj] : to have a conversation about (something) • They are in the conference room

talk-ing business. • They were *talk-ing* baseball/politics. • They like to *talk shop* [=to talk about work] during lunch. *synonyms* see SPEAK

2 [no obj] : to use your voice to say words : SPEAK • She had laryngitis and couldn't *talk*. • I can't understand you. You're *talk-ing* too fast. • No *talk-ing* during the performance, please! • Would you please stop *talk-ing*. I'm trying to watch the movie. • She *talks* very loud. • He is teaching the parrot to *talk*. • She started *talk-ing* when she was only eight months old.

3 [no obj] : to be willing to talk to someone after having an argument, disagreement, fight, etc., with that person — always used as (*be*) *talk-ing* • It's been two weeks and they're still not *talk-ing* (to each other).

4 [no obj] : to talk about the personal lives of other people • It's rude to *talk* [=gossip] about people behind their back(s). • If you continue behaving like that, people are bound to *talk*.

5 [no obj] : to tell secret information to someone • The police forced him to *talk*.

6 [no obj] : to give information without speaking : to communicate with signs, numbers, etc. • They were *talk-ing* to each other in sign language. • When she gets excited, she *talks* with her hands. [=she moves her hands when she talks] • The computer is *talk-ing* to the printer.

7 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [+ obj] : to talk until (someone or something) is in a specified state • He *talked* himself hoarse. [=he talked so much that his voice became hoarse] • She *talked* herself into a corner. [=she put herself in a bad position by talking too much] • We *talked* the night away. [=we talked throughout the night] — see also SWEET-TALK

8 [no obj] : to criticize someone ✧ This sense of *talk* is often used in phrases like *look who's talking*, *you're one to talk*, and *you should talk* to say that someone should not criticize another person because he or she has the same faults as that other person. • "She's way too skinny." "You're one to *talk*. You need to gain some weight, too."

9 [+ obj] *informal* — used to describe or suggest the size or amount of something; always used as (*be*) *talk-ing* • To fix the car, you're *talk-ing* at least \$500. [=it will cost at least \$500 to fix the car] • The heat was awful. I'm *talk-ing* 100-degree weather and no air-conditioning.

know what you are talking about see ¹KNOW

money talks see MONEY

now you're talking informal — used to say that someone has said or suggested something that you think is good, worth doing, etc. • "You don't want hamburgers. Well, how about steak?" "Yeah, *now you're talking*."

talk a blue streak see ¹BLUE

talk about **1** ✧ The phrase *what are you talking about?* can be used to show that you are confused, worried, upset, etc., about something that someone has just said. • *What are you talking about?* I did what you told me to do. **2 informal** — used to emphasize the size, amount, or extent of something • *Talk about* rain! I've never seen it rain like this in my entire life! • *Talk about* having a bad day. I had the worst day ever! • *Talk about* short. She's only four feet tall! — see also ¹TALK 1a, b (above)

talk a good game informal : to say things that make people believe that you can do something or that something is true about you even though it is not true • They *talk a good game*, but they're not really ready for the championship. • She *talks a good game* about protecting the environment, but she doesn't even recycle.

talk around also chiefly Brit talk round [phrasal verb] **1 talk around/round (something)** : to avoid talking about (a particular subject) especially because it is difficult, unpleasant, or embarrassing • They've been *talk-ing around* the real issue rather than addressing it directly. **2 talk (someone) around/round** : to cause (someone) to accept and support something (such as an idea) after opposing it • She says she doesn't agree with it, but we'll *talk her around* eventually. [=we'll eventually convince/persuade her to support it] — often + *to* • We can *talk her round to* our way of thinking.

talk at [phrasal verb] informal talk at (someone) : to speak to (someone) without listening to what he or she says to you in reply • My dad is always *talk-ing at* me. • You need to talk to your children, not *talk at* them.

talk back [phrasal verb] : to answer (someone) in a rude way that does not show proper respect • Don't *talk back*! — often + *to* • She was punished for *talk-ing back to* her parents.

talk down [phrasal verb] **1 talk down to (someone)** : to talk to (someone) in an overly simple way which suggests that he or she is not intelligent • Many politicians are guilty of

talking down to voters. • Don't *talk down to* me. I'm not stupid. **2 talk down (something or someone) or talk (something or someone) down** **a** : to describe (something or someone) as unimportant • He *talked down* [=downplayed] his accomplishments. **b** : to cause (the price of something) to be lower by talking to someone • She managed to *talk down* his asking price for the car. : to convince (someone) to lower the price of something • She *talked him down* 500 dollars. **3 talk (someone) down** : to convince (someone who is standing on a high place and threatening to jump) to come down and not to commit suicide • He tried to *talk her down* from the ledge. [=to convince her to not jump from the ledge] — sometimes used figuratively • He was about to quit his job in anger, but she managed to *talk him down*. [=to convince him not to do it]

talk into [phrasal verb] **talk (someone) into (something)** : to get (someone) to do something by talking about the good reasons for doing it : to convince or persuade (someone) to do something • The salesman *talked us into* buying the car. • Her friends couldn't *talk her into* going on the trip.

talk nineteen to the dozen *Brit, informal* : to speak rapidly and without stopping • He showed us around the house while *talking nineteen to the dozen*. [= (US) *talking a blue streak*]

talk of [phrasal verb] **talk of (someone or something)** : to speak or write about (someone or something) : to mention (a subject) in speech or writing • It was the first time she *talked of* going to law school. • She never *talks of* [=talks about, speaks of] her suffering during the war. • In the letter, he *talked of* feeling ill. • (*Brit*) *Talking of* [=speaking of] Jill, where is she?

talk of the devil see DEVIL

talk out [phrasal verb] **talk out (something) or talk (something) out** : to talk about (something) in order to find a solution • The teacher told him to *talk out* the problem.

talk out of [phrasal verb] **1 talk (someone) out of (something)** : to prevent (someone) from doing (something) by talking about the good reasons for not doing it : to persuade or convince (someone) not to do (something) • He *talked her out of* quitting school. **2 talk (yourself) out of (something) or talk your way out of (something)** : to avoid (something unpleasant or undesirable) by saying things to make other people forgive or excuse you • She *talked herself out of* trouble. = She *talked her way out of* trouble. [=she got herself out of trouble by talking] • He *talked his way out of* staying to clean up after the party.

talk over [phrasal verb] **talk (something) over or talk over (something)** : to discuss (something) with someone in order to make a decision or reach an agreement • We need some time to *talk over* the offer. — usually + *with* • I need to *talk it over with* my wife, first.

talk someone's ear off *US, informal* : to talk to someone for a very long period of time • He *talks my ear off* every time I call him.

talk (some) sense into/to see ¹SENSE

talk the hind leg(s) off a donkey *Brit, informal* : to talk for a long time • She rarely spoke, but her brother could *talk the hind legs off a donkey*. [=he was very talkative]

talk the same language see LANGUAGE

talk the talk : to say that you will do things • Sure, she *talks the talk*, but can she walk the walk? [=she says that she will do things, but will she actually do them?]

talk through [phrasal verb] **1 talk (someone) through (something)** : to help (someone) understand or do something by explaining its steps in a careful way • The woman on the phone *talked me through* the procedure. **2 talk (something) through** : to discuss (something) with someone in order to make a decision or reach an agreement • Have you *talked this through* with your family? **3 informal + old-fashioned** ✧ If you are *talking through your hat*, you are saying incorrect, foolish, or illogical things. • If he says that there's no problem, he's *talking through his hat*.

talk tough : to say that you will act in a forceful and aggressive way • When the subject is national security, all the candidates *talk tough*. [=they say that they will act aggressively to support national security] — often + *on* • The new mayor *talks tough on* crime.

talk trash see ¹TRASH

talk turkey see TURKEY

talk up [phrasal verb] **talk up (someone or something) or talk (someone or something) up** : to describe (someone or something) in a favorable way • The salesperson *talked up*

the car's safety features. • He's being *talked up* as the next big pop star.

²talk noun, pl talks

1 [count] : an occurrence in which one person talks about something with another person : a conversation or discussion — often + *about* • After a long *talk about* our relationship, we decided to get married. — often + *with* • The boss would like to *have a talk with* you. — see also PEP TALK

2 [count] : the act of talking formally about something before a group of people : a speech or lecture — often + *on* • He gave a *talk on* organic farming. • She is preparing a *talk on* Christianity in the 21st century.

3 [count] : a formal discussion between two or more groups that are trying to reach an agreement about something — usually plural • The country refuses to participate in *talks on* nuclear disarmament. • a round of trade *talks*

4 [noncount] : a particular way of speaking • I will not allow that kind of *talk* in my house. • The movie has plenty of action and tough *talk*. • **street talk** [=a way of speaking that is associated with people who live in a poor part of a city] • **straight talk** [=speech that is very honest and direct] — see also SHOPTALK

5 [noncount] **a** : discussion about what might happen • There has been some *talk* of further delays. [=some people have been saying that there will/may be further delays] • I've been hearing *talk* that she plans to run for president. **b** : the act of talking about a subject with another person or group : discussion or conversation • When they get together, the *talk* always turns to [=they always talk about] their years together in high school.

6 [noncount] : the things people say about what they want to do or are going to do • It's not just *talk*. I'm serious about moving out. • If we're ever going to solve these problems, we need less *talk* and more action. • The town's last mayor was *all talk* (and no action). [=the mayor talked about doing things but never actually did them] • **Talk is cheap**. [=it is easy to say that you will do something] I need to see results.

talk the talk see ¹TALK

the talk of the town : a person or thing that many people in a town, city, etc., are talking about in an interested or excited way • Last year at this time no one had ever heard of him, but now he's *the talk of the town*. • The new restaurant is *the talk of the town*.

— see also BABY TALK, DOUBLE-TALK, PILLOW TALK, SMALL TALK

talk-a-tive /'tɑ:kətv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : tending to talk a lot or to enjoy having conversations with people • Their little boy is very *talkative*. • She was in a *talkative* mood.

talk-er /'tɑ:kə/ *noun, pl -ers* [*count*] : a person who talks in a particular way or who talks a lot • That little girl is quite a *talker*. I don't think she's stopped talking since she got in the car. • He's not much of a *talker*. • He's more of a *talker* than a doer. [=he often talks about doing things without actually doing them] • She is a great/fast/loud *talker*. • a *smooth talker* [=a person who tends to flatter people]

talk-ie /'tɑ:ki/ *noun, pl -ies* [*count*] *old-fashioned* : a movie with sound — often plural • The era of silent movies ended when *talkies* were introduced. — see also WALKIE-TALKIE

talking head *noun, pl ~ heads* [*count*] : a person who gives information or opinions on a television show and whose head and shoulders are shown on the television screen • The debate was followed by hours of *talking heads* analyzing the candidates' performances.

talking point *noun, pl ~ points* [*count*] : a particular subject, idea, etc., that is part of a discussion • We have several *talking points* we need to cover. • I have a list of *talking points* here that support my case.

talking shop *noun, pl ~ shops* [*count*] *Brit* : a place where people talk about doing things but do not actually achieve anything — usually singular • She complained that Parliament had come to be an ineffective *talking shop*.

talk-ing-to /'tɑ:kn,tu:/ *noun* [*singular*] *informal* : an angry or serious conversation in which you criticize someone's behavior • We gave our daughter a good/stern *talk-ing-to* about her poor grades.

talk radio *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly US* : radio programs in which people talk about politics, sports, etc., and listeners can make phone calls to give their opinions • He listens to business/sports *talk radio* in the car.

talk show *noun, pl ~ shows* [*count*] : a radio or television program in which usually well-known people talk about something or are interviewed • She asked the actor to appear

on her *talk show*. • a famous *talk-show* host — called also (Brit) *chat show*

talky /'tɔ:ki/ *adj* **talk-i-er; -est** *somewhat informal*

1 : tending or wanting to talk : TALKATIVE • She was in a *talky* mood.

2 : having a lot of talking • a *talky* movie [=a movie in which people do a lot of talking]

tall /'tɔ:l/ *adj* **tall-er; -est**

1 : greater in height than the average person, building, etc. • All the children in my family grew up to be very *tall*. • My mother is short but my father is fairly *tall*. • The giraffe is the *tallest* animal. • *tall* trees • the *tallest* [=highest] mountain • the world's *tallest* building • The drinks were served in *tall* glasses. — opposite SHORT *synonyms* see ¹HIGH

2 *always used after a noun* : having a specified height • She is five feet *tall*. • The building is six stories *tall*. [=high]

stand tall see ¹STAND

walk tall see ¹WALK

tall order *noun* [singular] *informal* : something that is very difficult to do • Getting the project done on schedule is going to be a *tall order*. • That's a (pretty/very) *tall order*. = That's a *tall order* to fill.

tal-low /'tæləu/ *noun* [noncount] : fat from cattle and sheep that is used chiefly to make candles and soap

tall ship *noun*, *pl* ~ **ships** [count] : a very large sailing ship with at least two masts

tall tale *noun*, *pl* ~ **tales** [count] : a story that is very difficult to believe : a greatly exaggerated story • They sat around the campfire telling *tall tales* about their hunting adventures. — called also *tall story*

¹**tal-ly** /'tæli/ *noun*, *pl* -**lies** [count]

1 **a** : a recorded count of scores, votes, etc. • What is the final *tally*? **b** : a record of money that has been paid and money that has been received • He kept a daily/running *tally* [=account] of his expenses.

2 *US, informal* : a score or point made in a game or sport • Her second goal turned out to be the game-winning *tally*.

²**tally** *verb* **tal-lies; tal-lied; tal-ly-ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to record and count or calculate (something) • He *tallied* his expenses every day. — often + *up* • They carefully *tallied up* the cost of the repairs. • They *tallied up* the results of the vote.

2 [*no obj*] : to agree or match • The numbers on the old list and the new list don't *tally*. — usually + *with* • The old numbers don't *tally with* the new numbers.

3 [+ *obj*] *US, informal* : to score (a goal, point, etc.) in a game or sport • She *tallied* [=scored] her second goal just before the end of the period.

Tal-mud /'tɔ:l,mud/ *noun*

the Talmud : the writings that declare Jewish law and tradition • They consulted *the Talmud*. — compare TORAH

— **Tal-mu-dic** /tæl'mu:dik/ *adj* • *Talmudic* scholars

tal-on /'tælən/ *noun*, *pl* -**ons** [count] : one of the sharp claws on the feet of some birds • The hawk gripped the mouse in its *talons*. • the owl's *talons*

ta-ma-le /tə'mɑ:li/ *noun*, *pl* -**les** [count] : a Mexican food that consists of seasoned ground meat or beans rolled in cornmeal, wrapped in a corn husk, and steamed

tam-bou-rine /,tæmbə'ri:n/ *noun*, *pl* -**rines** [count] : a small musical instrument that is held in one hand and played by shaking or hitting it with the other hand — see picture at PERCUSSION

¹**tame** /'teim/ *adj* **tam-er; -est** [*also more ~; most ~*]

1 **a** : not wild : trained to obey people • a *tame* elephant **b** : not afraid of people • The island's birds are quite *tame*.

2 : not exciting or interesting : DULL • They ran a pretty/quite/rather *tame* campaign. • Some people were shocked by the movie, but I found the story pretty *tame*.

3 : gentle and obedient • Members of the audience were too *tame* to interrupt the speaker.

— *tame-ly* *adv* — *tame-ness* *noun* [noncount]

²**tame** *verb* **tames; tamed; tam-ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to make (an animal) tame • It took a while to *tame* the horse.

2 : to make (something) less wild or difficult to control : to bring (something) under control • the people who *tamed* the Wild West • He struggled to *tame* his temper. • The government needs to do something to *tame* inflation.

— *tamed* *adj* • a *tamed* animal — *tam-er* *noun*, *pl* -**ers** [count] • a lion/tiger *tamer*

tamp /'tæmp/ *verb* **tamps; tamped; tamp-ing** [+ *obj*] : to press (something) down by hitting it lightly — often + *down* •

He *tamped down* the soil with his foot. — sometimes used figuratively • She tried to *tamp down* the rumors.

tam-per /'tæmpə/ *verb* -**pers; -pered; -per-ing**

tamper with [phrasal verb] *tamper with* (something) : to change or touch (something) especially in a way that causes damage or harm • Someone *tampered with* the lock. • The evidence has been *tampered with*.

tam-per-proof /'tæmpə,pru:f/ *adj* : designed so that tampering cannot occur • pills that come in *tamperproof* packaging

tam-pon /'tæm,pɑ:n/ *noun*, *pl* -**pons** [count] : a piece of soft material (such as cotton) that is placed in the vagina to absorb the blood that occurs during menstruation — compare SANITARY NAPKIN

¹**tan** /'tæn/ *noun*, *pl* **tans**

1 [count] : a browning of the skin that is caused by the sun's rays • She has a nice *tan*. [=suntan] • I got a *tan* on my vacation.

2 [count, noncount] : a light brown color — see color picture on page C3

²**tan** *verb* **tans; tanned; tan-ning**

1 **a** [+ *obj*] : to cause (skin) to become darker especially from being exposed to the sun's rays • The sun *tanned* her skin. [=the sun made her skin tan] **b** [*no obj*] : to become darker especially from being exposed to the sun's rays • My skin *tans* easily. = I *tan* easily. — see also TANNED, TANNING

2 [+ *obj*] : to change (the skin of an animal) into leather by a chemical process • *tan* the hides

3 [+ *obj*] *informal + old-fashioned* : to beat or whip (someone) very badly • He threatened to *tan my hide* if I didn't do what he told me to do.

³**tan** *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 : having skin that has been made darker by being exposed to the sun's rays • I can't believe how *tan* she is!

2 : having a light brown color • a *tan* coat • a horse with *tan* markings

tan-dem /'tændəm/ *noun*, *pl* -**dems** [count]

1 : TANDEM BICYCLE

2 *chiefly US* : a group of two people or things that work together or are associated with each other • The team has a *tandem* of talented guards. • He and his partner make/form quite a *tandem*. [=duo]

in tandem of two people, groups, or things : working or happening together or at the same time • They moved *in tandem*. • The two products can be used alone or *in tandem*. • They're working *in tandem* with scientists from England to find a cure.

tandem bicycle *noun*, *pl* ~ -**cycles** [count] : a bicycle built for two riders with one sitting behind the other

tan-doori /tan'duri/ *adj*, *always used before a noun* : of or relating to an Indian method of cooking meat over charcoal in a clay oven • *tandoori* chicken • a *tandoori* oven

tang /'tæŋ/ *noun* [singular] : a strong, sharp taste or smell • the salt *tang* in the air • a dish with a *tang* of citrus

— *tangy* /'tæŋi/ *adj* **tang-i-er; -est** • *tangy* salt air • a *tangy* flavor/sauce

tan-gent /'tændʒənt/ *noun*, *pl* -**gents** [count] *geometry* : a line that touches a sphere or circle at only one point

go off on a tangent (US) or *Brit go off at a tangent* : to start talking about something that is only slightly or indirectly related to the original subject • She *went off on a tangent* about what happened to her last summer.

tan-gen-tial /tæn'dʒənʃəl/ *adj*

1 *formal* : slightly or indirectly related to something : not closely connected to something • Their romance is *tangential* to the book's main plot. • a *tangential* point

2 *geometry* : relating to a tangent : in or along a tangent • *tangential* force

— *tan-gen-tial-ly* *adv* • *tangentially* related/involved

tan-ger-ine /'tændʒə,ri:n/ *noun*, *pl* -**ines**

1 [count] : a small, sweet fruit that is like an orange with a loose skin which is easy to remove

2 [noncount] : a deep orange-yellow color — see color picture on page C3

— *tangerine* *adj* • a room with *tangerine* walls

tan-gi-ble /'tændʒəbəl/ *adj*

1 : easily seen or recognized • *tangible* benefits/results • There is no *tangible* evidence to support her claim.

2 : able to be touched or felt • *tangible* objects • the company's *tangible* assets [=its buildings, equipment, etc.] • Their sense of relief was *almost tangible*. — opposite INTANGIBLE

– **tan-gi-bil-i-ty** /ˈtændʒəˈbɪləti/ *noun* [noncount] – **tan-gi-bly** /ˈtændʒəbli/ *adv* • *tangibly* real

¹**tan-gle** /ˈtæŋɡəl/ *verb* **tan-gles; tan-gled; tan-gling** : to become or cause (something) to become twisted together [+ *obj*] Don't *tangle* the yarn. • Her foot was *tangled* (up) in the cord. — often used figuratively • He got *tangled* up in legal problems. [no *obj*] This fishing line *tangles* easily. — see also TANGLED

tangle with [phrasal verb] **tangle with** (someone or something) *informal* : to fight or argue with (someone or something) • He's not someone I would want to *tangle with*.

²**tangle** *noun, pl tangles* [count]

1 : a twisted knot of hair, thread, etc. : SNARL • a *tangle* of string/vines • She brushed the *tangles* out of her hair.

2 : a state of disorder or confusion • They got caught in a legal/financial *tangle*.

3 *informal* : a fight or disagreement • He got into a *tangle* with police.

tangled *adj*

1 : twisted together into a knot • *tangled* yarn/hair

2 : complicated or confusing • a *tangled* plot • their *tangled* finances

¹**tan-go** /ˈtæŋɡou/ *noun, pl -gos* [count] : a Latin-American dance in which couples make long pauses in difficult positions • We danced a/the *tango*; also : the music used for this dance • The band played a *tango*.

²**tango** *verb -gos; -goed; -go-ing* [no *obj*] : to dance the tango • He's trying to learn how to *tango*.

it takes two to tango see ¹TAKE 12

¹**tank** /ˈtæŋk/ *noun, pl tanks* [count]

1 a : a container for holding a liquid or gas • a water/oil/fuel *tank* • fish *tanks* • I filled the (gas) *tank* before I left for Maine. — see pictures at CAR, SCUBA DIVING; see also SEPTIC TANK, THINK TANK **b** : the amount that a tank will hold • We went through a *tank* [=tankful] of gas on the trip.

2 : a military vehicle that moves on two large metal belts with wheels inside them and that is covered in heavy armor

in/into the tank *US, informal* : in or into a very bad state or condition • The economy is *in the tank* right now. • The team *went into the tank* [=got much worse; became very unsuccessful] last season.

– **tank-ful** /ˈtæŋk,ful/ *noun, pl -fuls* [count] • a *tankful* of gas

²**tank** *verb tanks; tanked; tank-ing* *US, informal*

1 [no *obj*] : to be very unsuccessful : to fail completely • The movie *tanked*.

2 : to make no effort to win a contest (such as a tennis match) : to deliberately lose a game, match, etc. [+ *obj*] Some people say she deliberately *tanked* the match. [no *obj*] Some people have accused her of *tanking*.

tank up [phrasal verb] *US, informal* : to fill a vehicle with fuel • We should *tank up* [=fill up] before we leave.

– see also TANKED

tan-kard /ˈtæŋkəd/ *noun, pl -kards* [count] : a large, metal cup for drinking beer that has a handle and often an attached lid • a *tankard* of ale

tanked (*US*) /ˈtæŋkt/ or chiefly *Brit tanked up* *adj, not used before a noun, informal* : very drunk • He got *tanked* at the party.

tank-er /ˈtæŋkə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count] : a vehicle (such as a ship, truck, or airplane) that is designed to carry liquids — see pictures at SHIP, TRUCK; see also OIL TANKER, SUPERTANKER

tank top *noun, pl ~ tops* [count]

1 *US* : a shirt that has no sleeves or collar and usually has wide shoulder straps — see color picture on page C14

2 *Brit* : SWEATER VEST

tanned /ˈtænd/ *adj* : having skin that has been made darker by the sun • He's *tanned* and rested after his vacation.

tan-ner /ˈtænə/ *noun, pl -ners* [count] : a person who tans animal skins to make leather

tan-ner-y /ˈtænəri/ *noun, pl -ner-ies* [count] : a place where animal skins are tanned and made into leather

tan-nic acid /ˈtænik-/ *noun* [noncount] : TANNIN

tan-nin /ˈtænən/ *noun, pl -nins* [count, noncount] : a reddish

acid that comes from plants, is used in making ink and leather, and occurs in various foods and drinks (such as wine) — called also *tannic acid*

tan-ning /ˈtæniŋ/ *noun* [noncount] : the act or process of darkening your skin by exposing it to the bright light of the sun or a special type of lamp • indoor *tanning* • *tanning* oils/lotions

tanning bed *noun, pl ~ beds* [count] *US* : a machine that people lie in while being exposed to bright light in order to darken their skin — called also (chiefly *Brit*) *sunbed*

tanning booth *noun, pl ~ booths* [count] chiefly *US* : a machine that people stand in while being exposed to bright light in order to darken their skin

tan-ta-lize also *Brit tan-ta-lise* /ˈtæntəˌlaɪz/ *verb -liz-es; -lized; -liz-ing* [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone) to feel interest or excitement about something that is very attractive, appealing, etc. • She was *tantalized* by the possibility of earning a lot of money quickly.

– **tan-ta-liz-ing** also *Brit tan-ta-lis-ing* *adj* [more ~; most ~] • the *tantalizing* aroma of baking bread • a *tantalizing* glimpse into their lives — **tan-ta-liz-ing-ly** also *Brit tan-ta-lis-ing-ly* *adv* • I came *tantalizingly* close to victory.

tan-ta-mount /ˈtæntəˌmaʊnt/ *adj* : equal to something in value, meaning, or effect • His statement was *tantamount* to an admission of guilt. • They see any criticism of the President as *tantamount* to treason.

tan-trum /ˈtæntɹəm/ *noun, pl -trums* [count] : an uncontrolled expression of childish anger : an angry outburst by a child or by someone who is behaving like a child • When he doesn't get his way, he *has/throws a tantrum*. [=he gets very angry and upset and behaves like a child] • a *temper tantrum*

Tao /ˈdaʊ/ *noun* [noncount] : the source and guiding principle of all reality according to Taoism

Tao-ism /ˈdaʊˌɪzəm/ *noun* [noncount] : a Chinese philosophy based on the writings of Lao-tzu that stresses living simply and honestly and in harmony with nature

– **Tao-ist** /ˈdaʊɪst/ *noun, pl -ists* [count]

¹**tap** /ˈtæp/ *verb taps; tapped; tap-ping*

1 : to hit (someone or something) lightly especially with a small sound [+ *obj*] He was *tapping* the desk with a pencil. • He *tapped* her (on the) shoulder to get her attention. [no *obj*] Go *tap* on a window and see if anyone is home.

2 : to hit (your fingers, feet, etc.) against something lightly [+ *obj*] He was *tapping* a pencil on the desk. • She *tapped* her foot to (the beat of) the music. [no *obj*] Her foot was *tapping* to the music.

3 [+ *obj*] chiefly *US* : to choose (someone) for a particular job, honor, etc. — often + *for* • She was *tapped for* police commissioner. — often followed by *to* + *verb* • She was *tapped to be* police commissioner.

tap in/into [phrasal verb] **tap** (something) *in* or **tap in** (something) or **tap** (something) *in/into* (something) : to put (information) into a machine (such as a computer or telephone) by pushing buttons • She *tapped in* my name and found my account records. • He *tapped* the numbers *into* the calculator.

tap out [phrasal verb] **tap** (something) *out* or **tap out** (something) 1 : to follow the pattern of (something, such as a rhythm) by tapping on a surface • She *tapped out* the beat with her feet. 2 : to press buttons on a computer or typewriter to write (something) • He quickly *tapped out* a memo.

– compare ⁴TAP

²**tap** *noun, pl taps* [count]

1 : a light hit or touch or the sound that it makes • There was a *tap* at the door. • I felt a *tap* on my shoulder. [=someone tapped my shoulder]

2 : a small metal plate on the sole or heel of a shoe used for tap dancing

– compare ³TAP

³**tap** *noun, pl taps* [count]

1 : a device for controlling the flow of a liquid or gas from a pipe or container: such as **a** : FAUCET • turn on/off the *tap* • the hot/cold *tap* • a bathroom/kitchen *tap* ♠ In British English, *tap* is the usual word for this device. In U.S. English, *tap* is also commonly used in this way, but *faucet* is more common. — see pictures at BATHROOM, KITCHEN; see also TAP WATER **b** : SPIGOT 1 • the *tap* on a beer keg

2 : a device that allows someone to secretly listen to phone conversations • There was a *tap* on her phone. — called also *wiretap*

on tap 1 : served from a barrel • beer *on tap* 2 : available



tank

whenever you need it • The hotel has Internet service *on tap*. **3** *US* : planned or scheduled to happen • I called to find out what's *on tap* for the weekend.

— compare ²TAP; see also SPINAL TAP

4 **tap** *verb* **taps; tapped; tapping**

1 : to take or use money, knowledge, etc., from a source [+ *obj*] *tap* the nation's resources [*no obj*] We need to *tap into* new markets. — often used figuratively • The story *taps into* powerful emotions.

2 [+ *obj*] : to make liquid flow from something by attaching a special device (called a spigot or tap), making or opening a hole, etc. • *tap* a keg • *tapping* maple trees for their sap = *tapping* sap from maple trees

3 [+ *obj*] : to place a device on (someone's phone) in order to secretly listen to telephone calls • The FBI *tapped* her phone.

4 [+ *obj*] : to get something useful or valuable from (someone) — usually + *for* • He tried to *tap me for* a loan. [=tried to get me to give him a loan]

— compare ¹TAP

tap dance *noun, pl ~ dances* [*count*] : a kind of dance in which you wear special shoes with metal plates on the heels and toes and make tapping sounds with your feet

— **tap-dance** *verb* -dances; -danced; -dancing [*no obj*]

— **tap dancer** *noun, pl ~ -ers* [*count*] — **tap dancing** *noun* [*noncount*]

1 **tape** /*teɪp/ noun, pl tapes*

1 [*noncount*] : a long, narrow piece of material that is sticky on one side and that is used to stick things together or to cover or repair something • adhesive/packing *tape* • a piece of *tape* • His eyeglasses are held together with *tape*. — see also DUCT TAPE, MASKING TAPE

2 **a** [*noncount*] : a thin piece of plastic that is coated with magnetic material on which information (such as sound or television images) may be stored • The show was recorded *on tape*. — called also *magnetic tape* **b** [*count*] : something recorded on tape • We watched a *tape* [=recording] of a program/concert. • I was listening to a *tape* in the car. — called also *tape recording* **c** [*count*] : a thin case that contains a long piece of magnetic tape on which something is recorded : CASSETTE • an audio *tape* • She stuck a *tape* in the VCR.

— see also VIDEOTAPE

3 **the tape** : a long, thin piece of material that is stretched across the finish line of a race • She *broke the tape* [=she finished first in the race] in record time.

4 [*count*] : TAPE MEASURE

5 [*noncount*] : a long, thin piece of plastic, paper, or cloth • The crime scene was marked off with yellow *police tape*.

— see also RED TAPE, TICKER TAPE

2 **tape** *verb* **tapes; taped; tap-ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to attach (something) using sticky tape • She *taped* a note to/on the refrigerator.

2 : to fasten, tie, or cover (something) with tape • I *taped* the box shut. • He *taped* (up) the ends of the wire.

3 : to record (something) on magnetic tape • The show is *taped* before a live audience. • a *taped* interview

4 *chiefly US* : to wrap (an injured body part) tightly with long pieces of special cloth • The doctor *taped* (up) her ankle.

have (someone) taped *Brit, informal* : to completely understand (someone) : to know how to deal with (someone) • She *has him taped*. = She's got him *taped*.

tape deck *noun, pl ~ decks* [*count*] : a machine that plays and records sounds on magnetic tape • a stereo system that includes a *tape deck*

tape measure *noun, pl ~ -sures* [*count*] : a long, thin piece of plastic, cloth, or metal that is marked with units of length (such as inches or centimeters) and that is used for measuring things — called also *measuring tape*; see pictures at CARPENTRY, SEWING

tape player *noun, pl ~ -ers* [*count*] : a machine that is used to play sound that has been recorded on magnetic tapes

1 **ta-per** /*teɪpə/ verb -pers; -pered; -per-ing* [*no obj*] : to become gradually smaller toward one end • leaves that *taper* to a point • Her slacks *taper* [=become narrower] at the ankle.

taper off [*phrasal verb*] : to become gradually less and less : to decrease slowly • Production has been *tapering off*.

— **tapered** *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] • *tapered* slacks

2 **taper** *noun, pl -pers*

1 [*count*] **a** : a piece of string covered with wax that is used for lighting lamps, candles, etc. **b** : a long, thin candle

2 [*singular*] : the shape of something that becomes gradually smaller toward one end • The *taper* of her slacks is not flatter.

tape-re-cord /*ˌteɪpɪˈkoʊd/ verb -cords; -cord-ed; -cord-ing* [+ *obj*] : to make a recording of (something) on magnetic tape • *tape-record* a concert

tape recorder *noun, pl ~ -ders* [*count*] : a machine used to record and play sound on magnetic tape

tape recording *noun, pl ~ -dings* [*count*] : ¹TAPE 2b • a *tape recording* of the concert

tap-es-try /*ˈtæpəstri/ noun, pl -tries* [*count*]

1 : a heavy cloth that has designs or pictures woven into it and that is used for wall hangings, curtains, etc. • an ancient/medieval *tapestry*

2 : something made up of different things, people, colors, etc. — often + *of* • a *tapestry* of ideas • the rich *tapestry* of life in the city • (*chiefly Brit*) Whether you win or lose, it's all part of *life's rich tapestry*.

— **tap-es-tried** /*ˈtæpəstriːd/ adj* • *tapestried* halls

tape-worm /*ˈteɪp,wɔrm/ noun, pl -worms* [*count*] : a long, flat worm that lives in the intestines of people and animals

tap-i-o-ca /*ˌtæpiˈoʊkə/ noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the small, white grains of the cassava plant

2 : a dessert made by cooking tapioca grains usually with milk, eggs, and sugar — called also *tapioca pudding*

ta-pir /*ˈteɪpər/ noun, pl tapir or ta-pirs* [*count*] : an animal that is like a pig with a long nose and short legs and that lives in tropical America and Southeast Asia

tap-root /*ˈtæp,rʊ:t/ noun, pl -roots* [*count*] : the large main root of a plant from which smaller roots grow

taps /*ˈtæps/ noun* [*plural*] *US, military* : a song played on a bugle at military funerals and at night as a signal for soldiers to go to bed

tap water *noun* [*noncount*] : water that comes through pipes from the public water system

1 **tar** /*ˈtɑr/ noun, pl tars* [*count, noncount*]

1 : a very thick, black, sticky liquid made from coal that becomes hard when it cools and that is used especially for road surfaces — see also COAL TAR

2 : a sticky substance that is formed by burning tobacco • *low-tar* cigarettes

2 **tar** *verb* **tars; tarred; tar-ring** [+ *obj*] : to cover (something) with tar • *tar* a roadway

tar and feather (someone) **1** : to cover (someone) with tar and then with feathers as an old-fashioned punishment

2 *informal* : to punish (someone) very severely • If I don't get home in time, Mom will *tar and feather* me.

tar (someone) with the same brush : to think that (someone) has the same bad qualities and deserves the same blame or criticism as another person because of being connected or associated with that person in some way • It's a shame that when a few people get caught cheating everyone else gets *tarred with the same brush*.

ta-ran-tu-la /*ˌtæˈræntʃələ/ noun, pl -las* [*count*] : a large, hairy spider that lives in warm regions — see color picture on page C10

tar-dy /*ˈtɑdi/ adj* **tar-di-er; -est** *formal*

1 : slow in moving, acting, or happening • *tardy* progress

2 **a** : done or happening late • a *tardy* payment/arrival **b** : arriving or doing something late • *tardy* students • She was *tardy* to/for work. • They were *tardy* in filing the application.

— **tar-di-ly** /*ˈtɑdəli/ adv* • arrived/responded *tardily* — **tar-di-ness** /*ˈtɑdənəs/ noun* [*noncount*] • Please excuse my *tardiness*.

1 **tar-get** /*ˈtɑgət/ noun, pl -gets* [*count*]

1 : something that you are trying to do or achieve • We failed to meet/reach this month's sales *targets*. [=goals] • Our *target amount* for the fund-raiser is \$2,500. • They set a *target date* of May 31.

2 : a place, thing, or person at which an attack is aimed • Planes struck at key military *targets*. • He was a favorite *target* of the media. [=the media often attacked/criticized him] • Her policies have been a *target* for/of criticism. [=criticism has been aimed/directed at her policies] • Tourists are often *easy targets* for thieves. • The bullet *found its target*. [=the bullet hit the target it was aimed at] — often used figuratively • Men in this age group are *prime targets* for heart disease. [=are more likely than most other people to be affected by heart disease]

3 : the person or group that someone is trying to influence, sell something to, etc. — often used before another noun • Their *target audience/market* is teenagers.

4 : something (such as a round board with circles on it) that you try to hit with arrows, bullets, etc. • I aimed at the *target* and fired. • a moving *target* • *target* shooting/practice

off target 1 : not correct or accurate • Her accusations are way *off target*. 2 : not likely to reach a goal • We are *off target* in terms of sales this quarter.

on target 1 : correct or accurate • His predictions are always *on target*. 2 : likely to reach a goal • We are *on target* to meet this month's sales goals.

²target *verb* -gets; -get-ed; -get-ing [+ *obj*]

1 : to aim an attack at someone or something • The missile attacks *targeted* [=were aimed at] major cities. = The missiles were *targeted* [=aimed] at major cities. • Thieves often *target* tourists. • drugs that *target* cancer cells • He has frequently been *targeted* by the media. [=he has been the target of frequent attacks by the media]

2 : to direct an action, message, etc., at someone or something • The commercial is *targeted* [=aimed] at children. • government programs that are *targeted* at low-income areas = government programs that *target* low-income areas

tar·iff /'terəf/ *noun*, *pl* -iffs [count]

1 : a tax on goods coming into or leaving a country

2 *chiefly Brit* : a list of prices charged by a hotel or restaurant for meals, rooms, etc., or by a public company for gas, electricity, etc.

tar·mac /'tɑːmæk/ *noun*

the tarmac : the area covered by pavement at an airport • airplanes parked on *the tarmac*

Tar·mac /'tɑːmæk/ *trademark* — used for a paving material made of layers of crushed stone covered with tar

tarn /'tɑːn/ *noun*, *pl* tarns [count] : a small lake among mountains

¹tar·nish /'tɑːnɪʃ/ *verb* -nish-es; -nished; -nish-ing

1 : to become or cause (metal) to become dull and not shiny [no *obj*] Silver *tarnishes* easily. [+ *obj*] Some foods will *tarnish* silver.

2 [+ *obj*] : to damage or ruin the good quality of (something, such as a person's reputation, image, etc.) • His actions *tarnished* [=sullied] the family's good name. • The scandal *tarnished* his reputation.

— **tarnished** *adj* • *tarnished* silverware • the company's *tarnished* image

²tarnish *noun* [singular, noncount] : a thin layer on the surface of metal which makes the metal look dull • a polish that removes *tarnish*

ta·ro /'tarou, 'terou/ *noun*, *pl* -ros [count, noncount] : a tropical plant with a thick root that can be boiled and eaten

tar·ot /'terou/ *noun* [singular] : a set of 78 cards with pictures and symbols that is used to see what will happen in the future • reading the *tarot* • *tarot* cards

tarp /'tɑːp/ *noun*, *pl* tarps [count] *US* : TARPAULIN

tar paper *noun* [noncount] *US* : a heavy type of paper covered with tar that is used especially in roofs

tar·pau·lin /tɑː'pɑːlən/ *noun*, *pl* -lins [count] : a large piece of waterproof material (such as plastic or canvas) that is used to cover things and keep them dry

tar·ra·gon /'terə,gɑːn/ *noun* [noncount] : a small European herb that is used to flavor food

¹tar·ry /'teri/ *verb* -ries; -ried; -ry-ing [no *obj*] *literary* : to be slow in going : to stay somewhere : LINGER • He *tarried* over breakfast. • *Tarry* with us a while.

²tar·ry /'tari/ *adj*

1 : covered with tar • a *tarry* surface

2 : dark or thick like tar • a *tarry* substance

tar·sus /'tɑːsəs/ *noun*, *pl* tar·si /'tɑːsaɪ/ [count] *technical* : the ankle or one of the seven small bones in the ankle

— **tar·sal** /'tɑːsəl/ *adj*

¹tart /'tɑːt/ *noun*, *pl* tarts [count]

1 : an open pie that usually has a sweet filling (such as fruit or custard) • an *apple tart*

2 *informal* + *disapproving* **a** : a woman who wears very sexy clothing and has sex with many men **b** : PROSTITUTE

²tart *adj* tart·er; -est [also more ~; most ~]

1 : having a sharp or sour taste • a *tart* apple/cherry • The wine is rather *tart*.

2 : having a sharp and unkind quality • a *tart* reply • *tart* criticism

— **tart·ly** *adv* • "Be quiet," she told him *tartly*. — **tart·ness** *noun* [noncount]

³tart *verb* tarts; tart-ed; tart-ing

tart up [*phrasal verb*] *tart* (someone) *up* *informal* : to try to make (yourself or someone else) attractive by wearing fancy clothes, makeup, etc. • She *tarted herself up* for the party. = She got *tarted up* for the party. — often used figura-

tively in British English • old ideas *tarted up* to look new

tar·tan /'tɑːtən/ *noun*, *pl* -tans

1 [count] : a traditional Scottish cloth pattern of stripes in different colors and widths that cross each other to form squares • a kilt in the clan's *tartan*

2 [count, noncount] : fabric with a tartan pattern

¹tar·tar /'tɑːtə/ *noun* [noncount] : a hard substance that forms on teeth — compare ²TARTAR; see also CREAM OF TARTAR

²tartar *noun*, *pl* -tars [count] *informal* + *old-fashioned* : a person who is often angry or violent • Her husband sounds like a real *tartar*. — compare ¹TARTAR

tar·tar sauce (*US*) or *Brit* tar·tare sauce /'tɑːtə-/ *noun* [noncount] : a sauce that is made of mayonnaise and chopped pickles and that is often served with fish

tarty /'tɑːti/ *adj* tart·i·er; -est *informal* + *disapproving* : trying to appear sexy in an improper or offensive way • a *tarty* outfit

¹task /'tæsk/ *noun*, *pl* tasks [count] : a piece of work that has been given to someone : a job for someone to do • a daunting/difficult/impossible *task* • complete/accomplish a *task* • performing simple/routine *tasks* • Our first/main *task* is to review the budget. • This is not an easy *task*. = This is *no easy task* • I need to concentrate on *the task at hand* [=the work I'm doing right now] — see also MULTITASKING

take (someone) to task : to criticize (someone) harshly • The boss *took me to task* for wasting time.

synonyms TASK, DUTY, JOB, and CHORE mean a piece of work that has to be done. TASK suggests work given to you by someone who has authority. • The boss used to give me all the hard *tasks*. DUTY stresses that someone is responsible for doing the work. • The *duty* of the police is to protect the people. JOB may suggest that the work is necessary, hard, or important. • We all have to do our *jobs*. CHORE suggests a small, ordinary piece of work that is done regularly. • Taking out the garbage is a daily *chore*.

²task *verb* tasks; tasked; task-ing [+ *obj*] : to assign (someone) a piece of work : to give (someone) a job to do — usually used as (be) *tasked with* • She was *tasked with* proofreading the manuscript.

task·bar *noun*, *pl* -bars [count] *computers* : a narrow band across the bottom of a computer screen that shows which programs are running and which documents are open — see picture at COMPUTER; compare TOOLBAR

task force *noun*, *pl* ~ forces [count]

1 : a group of people who deal with a specific problem • a crime-fighting *task force* • They appointed a *task force* to review the situation.

2 : a military force that is sent to a particular place to deal with a problem

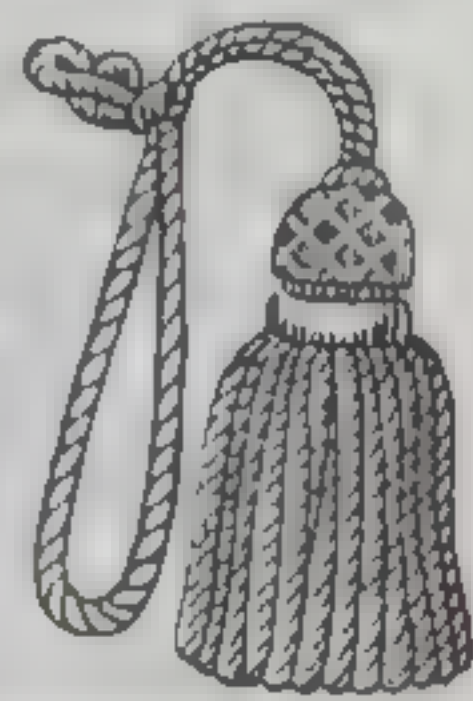
task·mas·ter /'tæsk,mæstə, *Brit* 'tɑːsk,mɑːstə/ *noun*, *pl* -ters [count] : a person who assigns work to other people • He's a hard/tough/stern *taskmaster*.

tas·sel /'tæsəl/ *noun*, *pl* -sels [count]

1 : a decoration made of a bunch of strings fastened at one end • shoes with *tassels*

2 : a flower or group of flowers at the top of a cornstalk

— **tas·seled** (*chiefly US*) or *chiefly Brit* **tas·selled** /'tæsəld/ *adj* • *tasseled* loafers/pil-lows/shoes



tassel

¹taste /'teɪst/ *noun*, *pl* tastes

1 [count] : the sweet, sour, bitter, or salty quality of a thing that you can sense when it is in your mouth : the flavor that you can taste when you eat or drink something • The wine had a slightly bitter *taste*. • She likes the *taste* of apples and cinnamon. • I detected a strong *taste* of ginger in the sauce. — sometimes used figuratively • The experience *left a bad taste in my mouth* [=the experience made me feel bad, disgusted, etc.]

2 [noncount] : the ability to notice or recognize flavors when you eat or drink : the ability to taste things • The food was very pleasing to the *taste*. [=the food tasted very good] • The illness affected her sense of *taste*.

3 [count] : a small amount of food or drink that you have in order to see how it tastes — usually singular • May I have a *taste* of your ice cream?

4 [singular] : something (such as a brief experience) that gives you some knowledge about what something is like — usually + *of* • It was her first *taste of* success. • That first

storm was just a *taste of things to come*. [=that storm was followed by many other storms]

5 : the feelings that each person has about what is appealing, attractive, etc. : the feelings that cause someone to like or not like something [noncount] He has no/little *taste* for gossip. [=he does not like gossip] • The movie was not *to their taste*. [=they did not like the movie] • The movie is intended to appeal to *popular taste*. [=to be liked by many or most people] • Whether you like the music or not is purely a *matter of taste*. [=a matter of opinion] [count] She has developed/acquired a *taste* for Italian wine. • Different people have different *tastes*. • They have expensive *tastes*. [=they like expensive things] • The store has something to suit all *tastes*. • The music is too loud *for my taste*. [=the music is louder than I prefer it to be] — see also *acquired taste* at ACQUIRE

6 [noncount] **a** : the ability to choose what is appealing, attractive, appropriate, or enjoyable • She is a person of *taste*. • The way he dresses shows that he has no *taste*. • She has good/poor *taste* in music. • The room was decorated with *taste*. [=the room was tastefully decorated] **b** — used in phrases to say that something (such as a person's speech or behavior) is or is not proper and acceptable • I think the joke he told was *in (very) bad/poor taste*. [=was offensive] • Some people felt that her behavior wasn't *in good taste*.

a taste of your own medicine see MEDICINE

to taste : in an amount that results in the taste that you want — used in recipes to indicate how much salt, pepper, etc., should be added to food • Salt the stew *to taste*.

²**taste** verb *tastes*; *tast-ed*; *tast-ing*

1 *not used in progressive tenses* [linking verb] : to have a particular taste • This milk *tastes* sour. • The pie *tasted* too sweet. • The wine *tastes* like vinegar. • This sauce *tastes* good/bad. • a sweet-tasting fruit — sometimes + *of* • The salad *tastes of* garlic.

2 [+ *obj*] **a** : to sense the flavor of (something that you are eating or drinking) • She said there was garlic in the sauce, but I couldn't really *taste* it. • Have you ever *tasted* anything so delicious? **b** : to put a small amount of (food or drink) in your mouth in order to find out what its flavor is • I *tasted* the tea and put more sugar in it. • She offered to *taste* the wine. • He *tasted* the tea to see if it was sweet enough. **c** *not used in progressive tenses* : EAT • This is the first food I've *tasted* since yesterday.

3 [+ *obj*] : to experience (something) • She talked about the day when she first *tasted* the joy of flying. • He has *tasted* the frustration of defeat. • The team has yet to *taste* victory/defeat.

taste blood see BLOOD

taste bud noun, *pl* ~ *buds* [count] : one of many small spots on your tongue that give you the ability to taste things

taste-ful /'teɪstfəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : done or chosen with a knowledge of what is appealing, attractive, appropriate, or enjoyable : having or showing good taste • a *tasteful* and attractive design • *tasteful* decorations

– **taste-ful-ly** *adv* • The room was *tastefully* decorated.

– **taste-ful-ness** noun [noncount]

taste-less /'teɪstləs/ *adj*

1 : not having much flavor • a nearly *tasteless* broth • *tasteless* vegetables

2 [more ~; most ~] : not having or showing good taste : not tasteful • a very *tasteless* joke • a vulgar and *tasteless* publicity stunt

– **taste-less-ly** *adv* • a *tastelessly* furnished room – **taste-less-ness** noun [noncount]

taste-mak-er /'teɪst,merkə/ noun, *pl* -ers [count] : a person whose judgments about what is good, fashionable, etc., are accepted and followed by many other people • She is one of the most powerful *tastemakers* in the fashion world.

tast-er /'teɪstə/ noun, *pl* -ers [count]

1 : a person who tastes foods or drinks to test their quality • a food/wine *taster*

2 *Brit, informal* : a small amount or sample of something that you can try to see if you like it • The magazine printed a *taster* of the author's new novel.

tasting noun, *pl* -ings [count] : a social event at which something (such as food or wine) is sampled and tasted • a menu/wine *tasting*

tasty /'teɪsti/ *adj* **tast-i-er**; -est [also more ~; most ~]

1 : having a good flavor : pleasing to the taste • That was a very *tasty* [=delicious] meal.

2 *informal* **a** : very appealing or interesting • a *tasty* [=juicy]

bit of gossip **b** *Brit* : very attractive • a *tasty* young woman/man

– **tast-i-ly** /'teɪstəli/ *adv* – **tast-i-ness** /'teɪstɪnəs/ noun [noncount]

tat /'tæt/ noun [noncount] *Brit, informal* : items that are cheap and poorly made • shops full of *tat* [=junk] — see also TIT FOR TAT

ta-ta /,tæ'tɑ:/ *interj, chiefly Brit, informal* : GOODBYE

ta-ter /'teɪtə/ noun, *pl* -ters [count] *informal*

1 : POTATO

2 *baseball* : HOME RUN

tat-tered /'tætəd/ *adj* : old and torn : RAGGED • a *tattered* flag • a pile of old *tattered* books • Her jeans were *tattered*. — often used figuratively • He was left trying to restore his *tattered* image/pride. • the *tattered* remains of her reputation

tat-ters /'tætəz/ noun [plural] : clothes that are old and badly torn • Her clothes were reduced to *tatters*. • They were dressed *in tatters*. [=in rags] — often used figuratively • After the war, the economy was *in tatters*. [=was in a state of ruin] • Her hopes lay *in tatters*.

tat-tie /'tæti/ noun, *pl* -ties [count] *chiefly Scotland* : POTATO

tat-tle /'tæt/ verb *tat-les*; *tat-tled*; *tat-tling* [*no obj*] *chiefly US, informal* : to tell a parent, teacher, etc., about something bad or wrong that another child has done • He saw his sister take a cookie and threatened to *tattle* (to their mother). — usually + *on* • He *tattled on* her. — see also TITTLE-TATTLE

– **tat-tler** /'tætəl/ noun, *pl* *tat-tlers* [count] • She's a crybaby and a *tattler*! [=tattletale]

tat-tle-tale /'tæt,teɪl/ noun, *pl* -tales [count] *chiefly US, informal + disapproving* : a child who tells a parent, teacher, etc., about something bad or wrong that another child has done : a child who tattles on another child • No one likes a *tattletale*. [= (Brit) telltale]

¹**tat-too** /tæ'tu:/ noun, *pl* -toos [count] : a picture, word, etc., that is drawn on a person's skin by using a needle and ink • He had a *tattoo* of a heart on his shoulder. • a *tattoo parlor* [=a place where people go to get tattoos] — compare ³TAT-TOO

²**tattoo** verb -toos; -tooed; -too-ing [+ *obj*] : to draw or write (a picture, word, etc.) on a part of someone's body by using a needle and ink • A heart was *tattooed* on his arm. [=he had a tattoo of a heart on his arm]

³**tattoo** noun, *pl* -toos

1 [singular] : a rapid rhythmic beat • The rain was *beating a tattoo* on the roof.

2 [count] *Brit* : an outdoor performance in the evening with music and marching by members of the military — compare ¹TATTOO

tat-too-ist /tæ'tu:wɪst/ noun, *pl* -ists [count] : a person whose job is to draw tattoos on people's bodies — called also *tattoo artist*

tat-ty /'tæti/ *adj* *tat-ti-er*; -est *informal* : old and in poor condition : SHABBY • a *tatty* old shirt/sweater

taught *past tense and past participle tense of TEACH*

taunt /'ta:nt/ verb *taunts*; *taunt-ed*; *taunt-ing* [+ *obj*] : to say insulting things to (someone) in order to make that person angry • The boys continually *taunted* each other.

– **taunt** noun, *pl* *taunts* [count] • He suffered the *taunts* of the other children.

– **taunt-er** noun, *pl* -ers [count]

– **taunt-ing-ly** /'ta:ntɪŋli/ *adv*

taupe /'toup/ noun, *pl* *taupes* [count, noncount] : a brownish-gray color — see color picture on page C2

Tau-rus /'torəs/ noun, *pl* -rus-es

1 [noncount] : the second sign of the zodiac that comes between Aries and Gemini and has a bull as its symbol — see picture at ZODIAC

2 [count] : a person born under the sign of Taurus : a person born between April 20 and May 20 • My friend is an Aries while I'm a *Taurus*.

taut /'ta:t/ *adj* **taut-er**; -est [also more ~; most ~]

1 : very tight from being pulled or stretched : not loose or slack • The rope was drawn/pulled/stretched *taut*.

2 : firm and strong : not loose or flabby • *taut* muscles

3 : very tense • *taut* nerves • The book is a *taut* thriller.

– **taut-ly** *adv* • a rope pulled *tautly* – **taut-ness** noun [noncount] • check the wire's *tautness*

taut-en /'ta:tn/ verb -ens; -ened; -en-ing : to make (something) tight or taut or to become tight or taut [+ *obj*] They *tautened* the rope. [*no obj*] The wire *tautened* as they pulled on it.

tau-tol-o-gy /tə'tɑ:lədʒi/ noun, *pl* -gies : a statement in

which you repeat a word, idea, etc., in a way that is not necessary [count] "A beginner who has just started" is a *tautology*. [noncount] trying to avoid *tautology*

— **tau-to-log-i-cal** /ˌtɑːtəˈlɑːdʒɪkəl/ *adj* • a *tautological* statement

tav-ern /ˈtævən/ *noun, pl -erns* [count]

1 : a place where alcoholic drinks are served : **BAR**

2 *old-fashioned* : a building that provides lodging and food for people who are traveling : **INN**

taw-dry /ˈtɑːdri/ *adj* **taw-dri-er**; **-est** *disapproving*

1 : having a cheap and ugly appearance • *tawdry* [=tacky] decorations

2 : morally low or bad • The scandal was a *tawdry* affair.

— **taw-dri-ness** /ˈtɑːdrɪnəs/ *noun* [noncount]

taw-ny /ˈtɑːni/ *adj* : having a brownish-orange color • *tawny* fur

¹**tax** /ˈtæks/ *noun, pl taxes* : an amount of money that a government requires people to pay according to their income, the value of their property, etc., and that is used to pay for the things done by the government [count] The decision was made to raise/cut *taxes*. • He was accused of evading *taxes*. • What was your income before/after *taxes*? — often + *on* • a *tax on* tobacco products [noncount] What is the amount of *tax* to be paid? • What was your income before/after *tax*? • *tax* deductions/laws/rates — see also **INCOME TAX**, **POLL TAX**, **PRETAX**, **SALES TAX**, **SURTAX**, **VALUE-ADDED TAX**, **WITHHOLDING TAX**

²**tax** *verb* **tax-es**; **taxed**; **tax-ing** [+ *obj*]

1 **a** : to require (someone) to pay a tax • He believes in *tax-ing* the rich to give to the poor. • You are *taxed* according to your income. **b** : to require someone to pay a tax on (something) — often used as (*be*) *taxed* • All income/property is *taxed*. • The sale of wine is *taxed* in this state.

2 : to require a lot from (something or someone) : to put demands on (something or someone) • That job really *taxed* our strength. [=required us to use a lot of physical effort] • All this waiting is *taxing* my patience. [=is making me lose my patience] • puzzles that *tax* your brain • You can have an enjoyable vacation without *taxing* your budget. [=without having to spend a lot of money]

tax with [*phrasal verb*] **tax** (someone) *with* (something) *formal* : to accuse (someone) of (something) • She *taxed* them *with* carelessness.

— **tax-er** *noun, pl -ers* [count]

tax-able /ˈtæksəbəl/ *adj* : able to be taxed • The sale of wine is *taxable* in this state. • *taxable* income/property [=income/property that you are required to pay a tax on]

tax-a-tion /tækˈseɪʃən/ *noun* [noncount] : the action, process, or system of taxing people or things • the federal right of *taxation* • The company is trying to shield its profits from *taxation*. [=to prevent its profits from being taxed] • They favor reduced *taxation* on capital gains. [=they think that capital gains should be taxed at a reduced rate]

tax base *noun* [noncount] : the amount of money or property that can be taxed within an area • an area with a large *tax base*

tax-deductible *adj* : allowed to be subtracted from the total amount of your income before you calculate the tax you are required to pay : allowable as a deduction from taxes • Your donation is *tax-deductible*.

tax-deferred *adj, US* : not taxed until sometime in the future • a *tax-deferred* savings plan

tax disc *noun, pl ~ discs* [count] *Brit* : a small, round sticker placed on the window of a vehicle showing that a tax has been paid so that the vehicle may be used on roads

tax-exempt *adj* : not taxed : exempted from a tax • a *tax-exempt* organization • *tax-exempt* bonds/funds

tax exile *noun, pl ~ -iles* [count] *chiefly Brit* : a person who has moved from one country to another country in order to avoid paying taxes

tax-free *adj* : not taxed : **TAX-EXEMPT** • *tax-free* medical benefits

tax haven *noun, pl ~ -vens* [count] : a place where people go to live and companies go to operate in order to avoid paying high taxes

¹**taxi** /ˈtæksi/ *noun, pl tax-is* /ˈtæksɪz/ : a car that carries passengers to a place for an amount of money that is based on the distance traveled [count] We caught/took/got a *taxi* to the restaurant. • She went outside and *hailed* a *taxi*. [=waved or called for a taxi to pull over and stop] [noncount] We went to the restaurant *by taxi*. — often used before another

noun • a *taxi* driver/company/service — called also *cab*, *taxi-cab*

²**taxi** *verb* **taxis** or **tax-ies**; **tax-ied**; **taxi-ing**

1 [*no obj*] of an airplane : to move on wheels along the ground • The plane *taxied* slowly to the runway.

2 : to direct an airplane as it moves on wheels along the ground [*no obj*] The pilot *taxied* out to the runway. [+ *obj*] The pilot *taxied* the plane out to the runway.

taxi-cab /ˈtæksi,kæb/ *noun, pl -cabs* : ¹**TAXI** [count] He drives a *taxicab*. [noncount] They arrived by *taxicab*.

taxi-der-my /ˈtæksə,dəmi/ *noun* [noncount] : the skill, activity, or job of preparing, stuffing, and mounting the skins of dead animals so that they look like they did when they were alive

— **taxi-der-mist** /ˈtæksə,dəmist/ *noun, pl -mists* [count]

tax-ing /ˈtæksɪŋ/ *adj* [*more ~*; *most ~*] : requiring a lot of effort, energy, etc. • a *taxing* job/chore • The journey proved to be very *taxing*.

taxi stand *noun, pl ~ stands* [count] *US* : a place where taxis park while waiting to be hired — called also (*Brit*) *taxi rank*

tax-man /ˈtæks,mæn/ *noun, pl -men* /-,mən/

1 [count] : a person who collects taxes

2 *the taxman informal* : the department of the government that collects taxes • One-third of her salary goes to *the taxman*.

tax-on-o-my /tækˈsɑːnəmi/ *noun, pl -mies* *technical* : the process or system of describing the way in which different living things are related by putting them in groups [noncount] plant *taxonomy* [count] the *taxonomies* of various plant groups

— **tax-o-nom-ic** /ˌtæksəˈnɑːmɪk/ *adj* • *taxonomic* relationships — **tax-o-nom-i-cal-ly** /ˌtæksəˈnɑːmɪkli/ *adv* • *taxonomically* related species — **tax-on-o-mist** /tækˈsɑːnəmist/ *noun, pl -mists* [count]

tax-pay-er /ˈtæks,peɪə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count] : a person who pays taxes

tax shelter *noun, pl ~ -ters* [count] : a way of investing money that reduces the amount of tax that has to be paid

tb. *abbr* tablespoon; tablespoonful

TB /ˌtiːˈbiː/ *noun* [noncount] : **TUBERCULOSIS**

TBA *abbr* to be announced — used to indicate that the time or place of something has not yet been decided and will be announced at a later time • The meeting will be next Wednesday at 2:00, location *TBA*.

T-ball /ˌtiːˈbɑːl/ *noun* [noncount] *sports* : a form of baseball for young children in which the ball is hit off a support (called a tee) rather than pitched

T-bar /ˌtiːˈbɑː/ *noun, pl -bars* [count] : a machine that is used to pull skiers up a mountain and that has a series of T-shaped bars each of which pulls two skiers — called also *T-bar lift*

TBD *abbr, US* to be determined — used to indicate that the time or place of something has not yet been decided and will be announced at a later time • The game has been postponed until next week, time *TBD*.

T-bone /ˌtiːˈboʊn/ *noun, pl -bones* [count] : a thick piece of beef that contains a T-shaped bone — called also *T-bone steak*

tbs. or **tbsp.** *abbr* tablespoon; tablespoonful

TD /ˌtiːˈdiː/ *noun, pl TDs* [count] *American football, informal* : **TOUCHDOWN**

tea /tiː/ *noun, pl teas*

¹[count, noncount] **a** : a drink that is made by soaking the dried leaves of an Asian plant in hot water • a cup of *tea* **b** : a similar drink that is made by using the dried leaves of another kind of plant • herbal/mint *tea* — see also **GREEN TEA**

2 [noncount] : the dried leaves that are used in making tea • a bag of *tea*

3 *Brit* **a** : a light meal or snack that usually includes tea with sandwiches, cookies, or cakes and that is served in the late afternoon [noncount] Let's meet for *tea* tomorrow. [count] That shop does a great afternoon *tea*. **b** [count, noncount] : a cooked meal that is served in the early evening — see also **CREAM TEA**, **HIGH TEA**

not for all the tea in China informal + *old-fashioned* : not for any reason • I would never invite him to my house again—*not for all the tea in China*.

not your cup of tea see ¹**CUP**

tea and sympathy *noun* [noncount] *chiefly Brit, old-fashioned* : kind treatment and care that is given to someone

who is upset • She could use some *tea and sympathy*.

tea bag *noun, pl ~ bags* [count] : a small bag of dried tea leaves that is soaked in hot water to make tea

tea break *noun, pl ~ breaks* [count] chiefly Brit : a short period of time in which a worker stops to rest and have tea, coffee, etc. : COFFEE BREAK

tea cake *noun, pl ~ cakes* [count] : a small, flat cake that usually has raisins and is eaten with tea

teach /'ti:tʃ/ *verb* **teach-es; taught** /'tɔ:t/; **teach-ing**

1 a : to cause or help (someone) to learn about a subject by giving lessons [+ *obj*] He enjoys *teaching* his students about history. [no *obj*] She no longer *teaches*. • He wants to *teach*. [=to be a teacher] **b** [+ *obj*] : to give lessons about (a particular subject) to a person or group • She *taught* English for many years at the high school. • He *teaches* music/science.

c [+ *obj*] : to cause or help (a person or animal) to learn how to do something by giving lessons, showing how it is done, etc. • She is *teaching* us (how to use) sign language. — often followed by *to* + *verb* • *teach* a child *to read/swim* • I *taught* my dog *to retrieve* sticks. • She *taught* me (how) *to ride* a bike.

2 [+ *obj*] : to show someone how to behave, think, etc. • The church *teaches* compassion and forgiveness. • Someone needs to *teach* her right and wrong. • The experience *taught* us that money doesn't mean everything.

3 [+ *obj*] *informal* : to cause (someone) to know the unpleasant results of something • Her injury will *teach* her not to be so careless with a knife. • He got the punishment he deserved. That'll *teach* him to lie to me. [=show him that he should not to lie to me again] • That will *teach* her a lesson. [=that will show her not to do something again]

you can't teach an old dog new tricks see ¹DOG

teach-able /'ti:tʃəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : able and willing to learn : capable of being taught • students who are *teachable* and eager to learn

2 : allowing something to be taught or learned easily • The book's style makes it very *teachable*. • (US) choosing a *teachable moment* [=a time that is favorable for teaching something, such as proper behavior]

teach-er /'ti:tʃə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count] : a person or thing that teaches something • Experience is a good *teacher*; especially : a person whose job is to teach students about certain subjects • She is a first-grade *teacher*. • a language/math/science *teacher* • a *teacher* of driver's education — see also SCHOOLTEACHER, STUDENT TEACHER, SUBSTITUTE TEACHER

teachers college *noun, pl ~ -leges* [count, noncount] US : a college for the training of teachers

teacher's pet *noun* [singular] *informal + disapproving* : a student in a class who is liked by the teacher and who is treated better than other students

teach-in /'ti:tʃ,ɪn/ *noun, pl -ins* [count] US : a meeting usually held on a college campus for people to talk about and learn about something (such as a social or political issue) • The group held a *teach-in* to discuss discrimination.

¹teaching *noun, pl -ings*

1 [noncount] : the job or profession of a teacher • He went into *teaching* after college.

2 [count] : something that is taught : the ideas and beliefs that are taught by a person, religion, etc. — usually plural; often + *of* • the *teachings* of Confucius • the *teachings* [=lessons] of the Bible

²teaching *adj, always used before a noun* : of, relating to, or used for teaching someone or something • the *teaching* profession • a *teaching* aid

teaching assistant *noun, pl ~ -tants* [count] US : a graduate student who teaches classes at a college or university — abbr. *TA*

teaching hospital *noun, pl ~ -tals* [count] : a hospital where people who are training to become doctors work and learn

tea cloth *noun, pl ~ cloths* [count] Brit : DISH TOWEL

tea-cup /'ti:kʌp/ *noun, pl -cups* [count] : a small cup used for drinking tea

a storm in a teacup see ¹STORM

tea garden *noun, pl ~ -dens* [count]

1 : a public garden where tea and other refreshments are served

2 : an area of land where tea is grown

tea-house /'ti:haʊs/ *noun, pl -houses* [count] : a restaurant where tea and other refreshments are served

teak /'ti:k/ *noun* [noncount] : the strong, hard, yellowish-

brown wood of a tree that grows in southeast Asia and that is used especially for making furniture and ships — called also *teakwood*

tea-ket-tle /'ti:kɛt/ *noun, pl -ket-tles* [count] US : a covered container that is used for boiling water and that has a handle and a spout — called also *kettle*

teal /'ti:l/ *noun, pl teal or teals*

1 [count] : a small duck found in Europe and America

2 [noncount] : a dark greenish-blue color — called also *teal blue*; see color picture on page C2

¹team /'ti:m/ *noun, pl teams* [count]

1 : a group of people who compete in a sport, game, etc., against another group • a doubles *team* in tennis • a basketball/gymnastics/bowling *team* • He is the best player on his *team*. • They are the worst *team* in baseball. • Our *team* is losing. = (Brit) Our *team* are losing. • (US) He is *on a team*. = (Brit) He is *in a team*. — often used before another noun • She is the *team* captain. • Baseball is a *team sport*. [=a sport played by teams] — see also TAG TEAM

2 : a group of people who work together • To get the job done more quickly, we split up into *teams*. • We worked as a *team* to put out the fire. • The company hired a *team* of lawyers to advise them. • a search and rescue *team* — often used before another noun • The project was a *team* effort. • corporate efforts to build *team* spirit [=the desire to work well as a team]

3 : a group of two or more animals used to pull a wagon, cart, etc. • a *team* of horses • A dog *team* pulled the sled.

²team *verb* **teams; teamed; team-ing** [+ *obj*] : to bring together (two people or things) • a show that *teams* two of television's funniest comedians — often used as (be) *teamed with* • The fish was *teamed with* roasted potatoes and a salad.

team up [phrasal verb] : to join with someone to work together • They *teamed up* to get the work done quickly. — often + *with* • Several organizations have *teamed up with* one another in the relief effort. • The movie is about a young policeman who is *teamed up with* an experienced detective.

team-mate /'ti:m,meɪt/ *noun, pl -mates* [count] : a person who is on the same team as someone else • They have been *teammates* for several years. • She's very popular among her *teammates*.

team player *noun, pl ~ -ers* [count] : someone who cares more about helping a group or team to succeed than about his or her individual success • The other people on the staff don't like him because he's not a *team player*.

team-ster /'ti:mstə/ *noun, pl -sters* [count] US : someone who drives a truck as a job

team-work /'ti:m,wɜ:k/ *noun* [noncount] : the work done by people who work together as a team to do something • They credit good *teamwork* for their success.

tea party *noun, pl ~ -ties* [count] : an afternoon social gathering at which tea is served

tea-pot /'ti:pɑ:t/ *noun, pl -pots* [count] : a pot that is used for making and serving tea and that has a spout and handle

a tempest in a teapot see TEMPEST

¹tear /'tiə/ *verb* **tears; tore** /'tɔ:/; **torn** /'tɔ:n/; **tear-ing**

1 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to separate (something) into parts by pulling it, cutting it, etc. : to rip, split, or open (something) quickly or violently [+ *obj*] He *tore* the letter in half. • They began *tearing* their presents open. • He *tore apart* the two tickets and handed one to me. • The dog *tore* the pillow *to pieces/shreds*. [no *obj*] *Tear* along the dotted line.

2 a : to make (a hole or opening) in a piece of clothing, a piece of paper, etc., usually by cutting it on something sharp [+ *obj*] She *tore* a hole in her sock when she jumped over the fence. [no *obj*] His coat got caught on a nail and *tore*. • His pants *tore* at the seam. **b** [+ *obj*] : to make (a hole, a path) in a violent or forceful way • The explosion *tore* a hole in the side of the building. — sometimes used figuratively • The new evidence could *tear* a hole in their theory. [=it could show that their theory is not correct]

3 [+ *obj*] : to cut or injure (skin, a muscle, etc.) • He *tore* a ligament in his left knee during football practice. • a *torn* leg muscle • When she fell, she *tore* the skin on her elbow.

4 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [+ *obj*] : to remove (something) quickly or violently • The curtains had been *torn* from the windows. • She *tore* the book out of my hands. • They decided to *tear* out the kitchen's old cabinets. • He *tore* the page out of the magazine. • I wanted to *tear* her head off! • He *tore* off a piece of bread and ate it. • She *tore* a

corner off of a sheet of paper and wrote her number on it. • Open up or we'll *tear* down this door! • The police officer grabbed him, but he managed to *tear himself loose/free*. [=to pull himself away from the police officer]

5 *always followed by an adverb or preposition [no obj]* : to go or move very quickly • The kids *tore* into the house and up the stairs. • We watched the cars *tear* around the track. • He went *tearing* down the street on his bicycle. • The fire *tore* through the forest. • An epidemic was *tearing* through the region. • The bullet *tore* through his leg.

6 [+ *obj*] : to damage or harm (something, such as a country) very badly — usually used as (*be*) *torn* • The region has *been torn* [=ravaged] by disease and hunger for the last 50 years. • a country *torn* by violence • a war-*torn* country

7 [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone) to feel confused, upset, etc., especially about making a choice or decision — often + *apart* or *up* • I can't decide, and it's *tearing* me *apart*! • It's *tearing* me *up* (inside). — usually used as (*be*) *torn* • I've been trying to decide, but I'm still *torn*. [=I'm still unable to decide] • She was *torn* by conflicting loyalties. — often + *between* • He is *torn* between his career and his responsibilities as a father. • a person *torn* between two lovers

tear apart [*phrasal verb*] **1** *tear (something) apart or tear apart (something)* : to completely destroy (something) by tearing it into pieces • I couldn't open the box nicely, so I just *tore* it *apart*. — often used figuratively • The robbers *tore apart* the house [=they made a mess in the house] looking for the money. • We *tore* the other team *apart* [=we easily beat the other team] in yesterday's game. • Civil war threatened to *tear apart* the country. • We can't agree, and it's *tearing* our family *apart*. **2** *tear (someone or something) apart or tear apart (someone or something)* : to criticize (someone or something) in a very harsh or angry way especially by describing weaknesses, flaws, etc. • The article *tears apart* the government's handling of the situation. • I thought it was a good movie, but she *tore* it *apart*. • They *tore* him *apart* when he left. — see also ¹TEAR 1, 7 (above)

tear at [*phrasal verb*] *tear at (someone or something)* : to attack and pull pieces from (something) in a violent way • The cat *tore at* my pants with its claws. • wolves *tearing at* a dead deer — often used figuratively • Those two are always *tearing at* each other's throats. [=always arguing with and harshly criticizing each other] • Her sadness *tore at* his heart. [=made him very upset/unhappy]

tear away [*phrasal verb*] *tear (someone or something) away* : to cause (someone) to leave or move away from something • I needed to leave the party, but I couldn't *tear* myself *away*. • She couldn't *tear* him *away* from the TV. • He couldn't *tear his eyes away* from the TV. [=he could not stop watching the TV] — see also TEARAWAY

tear down [*phrasal verb*] *tear down (something) or tear (something) down* : to completely destroy (something, such as a building or wall) • They *tore down* the old hospital and built a new one. • We're planning to *tear down* the wall between the kitchen and the dining room. — often used figuratively • *tearing down* walls of injustice • They're trying to *tear* his reputation *down*.

tear into [*phrasal verb*] *informal* **1** *tear into (something)* : to begin doing (something) in a very quick or forceful way • The kids *tore into* the pizza. [=quickly began eating the pizza] • The band *tore into* the next song with a lot of energy. **2** *tear into (someone or something)* : to criticize (someone or something) in a very harsh or angry way • My father *tore into* me for coming home an hour late. • The critics *tore into* her performance in the movie.

tear (someone) limb from limb see LIMB

tear (someone) off a strip see ¹STRIP

tear (someone or something) to pieces/shreds : to criticize (someone or something) in a very harsh or angry way • They *tore* my idea *to pieces*. • The actress was *torn to shreds* in the press. — see also ¹TEAR 1 (above)

tear up [*phrasal verb*] *tear up (something) or tear (something) up* **1** : to completely destroy (something) by tearing it into pieces • I *tore* the letter *up* and threw it away. — often used figuratively • They offered to *tear up* his old contract [=get rid of his old contract] and give him a new one. • The burglars *tore* the house *up*. [=made a mess in the house] **2** : to break apart and remove pieces of (something) • The city *tore* the street *up* to fix a broken water main. • They *tore up* 20 acres of forest and built a new shopping mall. **3** *chiefly US, informal* : to perform very well on or in (something) • They were *tearing up* the dance floor. [=they were dancing in very skillful, energetic, and

impressive way] • He *tore up* the league last season.

tear your hair out see HAIR

that's torn it Brit, informal — used to say that something is no longer possible • Well, *that's torn it*. Now everyone knows my little secret. • *That's torn it*: the deal's off!

— compare ⁴TEAR

²tear *noun, pl tears* [*count*] : a hole or opening in something (such as a piece of paper or cloth) that is made by cutting it or tearing it • The nail left a *tear* in his jacket. • She had a *tear* in her stockings. • She suffered a partial *tear* of the ligament in her right knee.

on a tear US, informal : having great success over a period of time • The team has been *on a tear* in recent weeks. [=has been playing very well, has been winning a lot of games] • The economy is *on a tear*, but can it last?

wear and tear see ²WEAR

— compare ³TEAR

³tear /'tiə/ *noun, pl tears* [*count*] : a drop of liquid that comes from your eyes especially when you cry : TEARDROP • A single *tear* ran down his cheek. • She wiped the *tears* from her eyes. • Let me wipe away your *tears*. • She was crying/weeping *tears* of anger/frustration/shame. • *tear*-filled eyes • That song *brings a tear to my eye* [=makes me cry a little] every time I hear it. • She suddenly *burst into tears*. [=started to cry] • He looked like he was *close to tears*. [=going to cry soon] • Come now. *Dry your tears* [=stop crying] and try to be happy. • I tried to *fight back the tears*. [=I tried not to cry] • I couldn't *hold back my tears*. [=I could not stop myself from crying] • The memory brought on a sudden *flood of tears*. • We were laughing so hard that we were *in tears*. [=tears were coming out of our eyes] • Everyone in the audience was *moved to tears* by their performance. [=their performance made everyone cry] • His hateful words *reduced me to tears*. [=they made me cry]

blink back/away tears see ¹BLINK

bore you to tears see ¹BORE

dissolve in/into tears see DISSOLVE

end in tears : to have an ending in which people are crying or unhappy • In our family, discussions about money always seem to *end in tears*.

shed tears : to cry or weep • They *shed tears* of joy/gratitude when they heard the news. • I never saw my father *shed* a single *tear*, even when my mother died.

— compare ²TEAR; see also CROCODILE TEARS

⁴tear *verb* **tears; teared; tear-ing** [*no obj*] : to fill with tears • Why do your eyes *tear* when you cut onions? — often + *up* • His eyes started *tearing up*. = He started *tearing up*. — compare ¹TEAR

tear-away /'terə,wei/ *noun, pl -aways* [*count*] *Brit, informal* : a young person who behaves badly and who does dangerous, foolish, or illegal things • a gang of teenage *tearaways* — see also *tear away* at ¹TEAR

tear-drop /'tiə,drɔ:p/ *noun, pl -drops* [*count*]

1 : ³TEAR

2 : something that is pointed at the top and round at the bottom : something that is shaped like a falling tear • diamond *teardrop* earrings

tear-ful /'tiəfəl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 : filled with tears • He looked up at me with his *tearful* eyes and asked for help.

2 : happening with tears • a *tearful* plea for help [=a plea for help by someone who is crying] • a *tearful* goodbye • the *tearful* parting of two lovers

— **tear-ful-ly** *adv* • He pleaded *tearfully* for help. — **tear-fulness** *noun* [*noncount*] • The scene quickly changed from *tearfulness* to laughter.

tear gas *noun* [*noncount*] : a gas that makes people unable to see by causing their eyes to be filled with tears and that is used especially by the police or military to separate large groups of people

— **tear-gas** /'tiə,gæs/ *verb* **-gas-ses; -gassed; -gas-sing** [+ *obj*] • The protesters were *teargassed* by the police.

tear-jerk-er /'tiə,dʒəkə/ *noun, pl -ers* [*count*] *informal* : a story, song, movie, etc., that makes you cry or feel very sad • I'm not in the mood to see a *tearjerker*. Let's watch something funny instead.

— **tear-jerk-ing** /'tiə,dʒəkɪŋ/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] • a *tear-jerking* love song

tea-room /'ti:ru:m/ *noun, pl -rooms* [*count*] : a small restaurant that serves light meals — called also *tea shop*

teary /'tiri/ *adj* **tear-i-er; -est** [*also more ~; most ~*] : filled with tears or happening with tears : TEARFUL • There were

many *teary* eyes/faces among those in the audience. • He made a *teary* farewell to the fans.

teary-eyed *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : having eyes that are wet with tears • I got a little *teary-eyed* at the end of the movie. [=I shed a few tears at the end of the movie] • She said goodbye to her *teary-eyed* mother.

tease /'ti:z/ *verb* **teas·es; teased; teas·ing**

1 : to laugh at and criticize (someone) in a way that is either friendly and playful or cruel and unkind [+ *obj*] He and his wife enjoy *teasing* each other about their different tastes in music. • The other children *teased* her because she was wearing braces. • He was always *teased* by his brother about being short. [*no obj*] Oh, don't get so angry. I was just/only *teas·ing*! • Stop your *teasing*!

2 [+ *obj*] : to annoy or bother (an animal) • The boy's mother told him to stop *teasing* the dog.

3 [+ *obj*] *US* : to make (hair) look fuller or bigger by combing it in a special way • She *teases* [=chiefly *Brit*] *backcombs* her hair.

4 : to make (someone) feel excitement or interest about something you might do or say without actually doing it or saying it [+ *obj*] Stop *teasing* us and tell us who your surprise guest is. [*no obj*] She likes to *tease*.

5 [+ *obj*] : to remove or separate (thin pieces of something) slowly and carefully • The twisted strands of the rope were gently *teased* apart. — often + *out* • They described the techniques used to *tease out* [=extract] genetic material from DNA. • She carefully *teased* the roots of the young plant *out* of the soil. — often used figuratively • Reporters are still trying to *tease out* [=find out] the details of the accident. • It won't be easy to *tease out* the meaning of these statistics.

— **teas·ing** *adj* • a *teasing* tone of voice — **teasing** *noun* [*noncount*] • There was some affectionate *teasing* about the way he was dressed. — **teas·ing·ly** /'ti:zɪŋli/ *adv* • They *teasingly* remarked about the way he was dressed.

tease *noun, pl teases* [*count*]

1 : a person who teases other people — usually singular • He's just a *tease*.; *especially* : a person who seems to be sexually interested in someone but who is not serious about having sexual relations • a pretty girl who has the reputation of being a bit of a *tease*

2 : a joking remark that criticizes someone in a friendly way : a teasing remark — usually singular • Don't take what he said seriously. It was just a *tease*.

3 *US* : TEASER 2 • The lower rate is just a *tease* to attract new customers.

teas·er /'ti:zə/ *noun, pl -ers* [*count*]

1 : a person who teases other people : TEASE

2 : something that is done, offered, or shown to make people want something or want to see something that will be offered or shown at a later time • A *teaser* for the sequel appeared at the end of the movie. • credit cards offering *teaser* rates to get people to sign up

3 *Brit* : a difficult problem or puzzle : BRAINTEASER

tea service *noun, pl ~ -vices* [*count*] : TEA SET

tea set *noun, pl ~ sets* [*count*] : a matching set of cups and dishes that are used for serving tea

tea shop *noun, pl ~ shops* [*count*] : TEAROOM

tea·spoon /'ti:spu:n/ *noun, pl -spoons* [*count*]

1 : a small spoon that is used especially for eating soft foods and stirring drinks • She stirred her coffee with a *teaspoon*. — compare TABLESPOON

2 **a** : a spoon that is used by cooks for measuring dry and liquid ingredients and that holds an amount equal to 1/2 fluid ounce or 1/3 tablespoon • He measured the salt with a *tea·spoon*. **b** : the amount that a teaspoon will hold : TEASPOONFUL • She put a *teaspoon* of sugar in her coffee. — abbr. *tsp.*

tea·spoon·ful /'ti:spu:n,ful/ *noun, pl -spoon·fuls* /-,spu:n,fulz/ or **-spoons·ful** /-,spu:nz,ful/ [*count*] : the amount that a teaspoon will hold • The recipe calls for a *tea·spoonful* [=teaspoon] of salt. — abbr. *tsp.*

teat /'tit, 'ti:t/ *noun, pl teats* [*count*]

1 : the part of a female animal (such as a cow) through which a young animal receives milk

2 *Brit* : NIPPLE 2

tea·time /'ti:taim/ *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : the usual time for the afternoon meal known as tea : late afternoon or early evening • It was nearing *teatime*.

tea towel *noun, pl ~ -els* [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : DISH TOWEL

tea tray *noun, pl ~ trays* [*count*] : a tray for holding a tea set

tech /'tek/ *noun, pl techs*

1 [*count*] *informal* : TECHNICIAN • lab/computer *techs*

2 [*noncount*] *informal* : TECHNOLOGY — often used before another noun • *tech* companies • He's a *tech* geek.

3 [*noncount*] : a technical school — used in the shortened forms of names of technical schools • Georgia *Tech*

tech·ie /'teki/ *noun, pl -ies* [*count*] *informal* : someone who knows a lot about technology • computer *techies*

tech·ni·cal /'teknikəl/ *adj*

1 **a** : relating to the practical use of machines or science in industry, medicine, etc. • *technical* training/knowledge/skills • the latest *technical* [= (more commonly) *technological*] advances in aircraft design • If you have any problems with your new computer, we offer 24-hour *technical support* • I missed the first 10 minutes of the show because the network was experiencing *technical difficulties/problems*. **b** : teaching practical skills rather than ideas about literature, art, etc. • a *technical* school/college

2 [*more ~; most ~*] **a** : having special knowledge especially of how machines work or of how a particular kind of work is done • *Technical* experts analyzed the data. • The film's director hired a real police officer as a *technical* consultant/adviser. **b** : relating to the special skills or techniques needed to do a particular job or activity • a pianist/painter with good *technical* skills • Her ice-skating routine had the highest level of *technical* difficulty. = Her routine was very *technical*.

3 [*more ~; most ~*] : involving special knowledge, language, etc., that is used or understood by experts but usually not by others • *technical* writing • The essay is too *technical* for me. • the more *technical* details/aspects of their research • "Cartography" is the *technical* name/term/word for the making of maps. • He is using the word in its *technical* sense/meaning.

4 : according to a very strict explanation of a rule, fact, etc. • a *technical* violation of the law • They were arguing over a minor *technical point* [=technicality] • (*informal*) I'm not really 18 years old until tomorrow, if you want to *get technical* about it. [=if you want to be very exact or precise about it]

technical foul *noun, pl ~ fouls* [*count*] *basketball* : a foul that involves improper behavior or language rather than physical contact with an opponent — compare PERSONAL FOUL

tech·ni·cal·i·ty /,teknə'kæləti/ *noun, pl -ties* [*count*]

1 : a small detail in a rule, law, etc., and especially one that forces an unwanted or unexpected result • These cases were dropped because of legal *technicalities*. • She lost the contest because of a *technicality*. = She lost the contest *on a technicality*.

2 : something that is understood by experts but usually not by other people — usually plural; often + *of* • I don't want to get into the *technicalities* of genetic cloning.

technical knockout *noun, pl ~ -outs* : an occurrence in which a fighter wins a boxing match when an opponent is unable to continue to fight usually because of injuries [*count*] He has 10 knockouts and 6 *technical knockouts*. [*noncount*] He won by *technical knockout*. — called also *TKO*

tech·ni·cal·ly /'teknikli/ *adv*

1 **a** : according to a very strict explanation of a rule, fact, etc. • The computer took a minute to download the file. Well, *technically* it took 53 seconds. • The use of the drug is *technically* illegal but difficult to prosecute. • *Technically*, a tomato is a fruit, not a vegetable. = *Technically speaking*, a tomato is a fruit, not a vegetable. **b** [*more ~; most ~*] : according to or among experts • A map maker is (more) *technically* known as a cartographer.

2 [*more ~; most ~*] : in a way that relates to the use of special techniques or skills • Her newest ice-skating routine is more *technically* difficult. • *Technically*, the pianist was perfect, but the performance was uninspired.

3 [*more ~; most ~*] : in a way that relates to the use of machines or science in industry, medicine, etc. • We live in a *technically* [= (more commonly) *technologically*] advanced society. • This kind of surgery is now *technically* possible, but it is still risky.

tech·ni·cian /tek'niʃən/ *noun, pl -cians* [*count*]

1 : a person whose job relates to the practical use of machines or science in industry, medicine, etc. • medical/X-ray/laboratory *technicians* • They hired a *technician* to help maintain the office's computers. • She is the lighting/sound *technician* for the play. — see also EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN

2 *somewhat formal* : someone who has mastered the basic

techniques or skills in a sport, an art, etc. • As a painter, he was more than just a *technician*; he was a creative genius.

Tech-ni-col-or /ˈtɛkniˌkəl/ trademark — used for a process of color photography in movies

tech-nique /tɛkˈni:k/ noun, pl **-niques**

1 [count] : a way of doing something by using special knowledge or skill • We learned some *techniques* for relieving stress. • I used a special *technique* to make the bread.

2 [noncount] : the way that a person performs basic physical movements or skills • The players need to practice in order to improve their *technique*. • a dancer with excellent *technique* • The ice-skaters will be judged on *technique* and creativity.

tech-no /ˈtɛkˌnou/ noun [noncount] : a type of electronic dance music that has a fast beat • The club plays only *techno*. • *techno* music

techno- combining form : technical • *technocrat* : technological • *technophobe*

tech-noc-ra-cy /tɛkˈnɑːkrəsi/ noun, pl **-cies** [count, noncount] formal : a system in which people with a lot of knowledge about science or technology control a society

tech-no-crat /ˈtɛknəˌkræt/ noun, pl **-crats** [count] : a scientist or technical expert who has a lot of power in politics or industry

tech-no-crat-ic /ˌtɛknəˈkrætɪk/ adj : of, relating to, or similar to a technocrat or technocracy • a *technocratic* leader/society • a *technocratic* approach

tech-nol-o-gist /tɛkˈnɑːlədʒɪst/ noun, pl **-gists** [count] : someone who is an expert in technology

tech-nol-o-gy /tɛkˈnɑːlədʒi/ noun, pl **-gies**

1 [noncount] : the use of science in industry, engineering, etc., to invent useful things or to solve problems • Recent advances in medical *technology* have saved countless lives. • The company is on the cutting edge of *technology*.

2 : a machine, piece of equipment, method, etc., that is created by technology [count] The government is developing innovative/advanced *technologies* to improve the safety of its soldiers. • How can we apply this new *technology* to our everyday lives? [noncount] The car has the latest in fuel-saving *technology*.

– **tech-no-log-i-cal** /ˌtɛknəˈlɑːdʒɪkəl/ also US **tech-no-log-ic** /ˌtɛknəˈlɑːdʒɪk/ adj • Many *technological* advances/developments/changes in medicine have taken place over the past decade. – **tech-no-log-i-cal-ly** /ˌtɛknəˈlɑːdʒɪkli/ adv • a *technologically* advanced society • *technologically* savvy consumers

technology park noun, pl ~ **parks** [count] : RESEARCH PARK

tech-no-phile /ˈtɛknəˌfajəl/ noun, pl **-philes** [count] : someone who likes and enjoys technology and modern machines (such as computers)

tech-no-phobe /ˈtɛknəˌfoub/ noun, pl **-phobes** [count] : someone who fears or dislikes modern machines (such as computers) • My father is a *technophobe*.

– **tech-no-pho-bia** /ˌtɛknəˈfoubɪə/ noun [noncount] • He finally overcame his *technophobia* and bought a computer.

– **tech-no-pho-bic** /ˌtɛknəˈfoubɪk/ adj [more ~; most ~] • *technophobic* people

tec-ton-ic /tɛkˈtɑːnɪk/ adj, always used before a noun

1 geology : of or relating to changes in the structure of the Earth's surface • *tectonic* plates/forces

2 : having a large and important effect • There has been a recent *tectonic* shift/change in voting patterns.

tec-ton-ics /tɛkˈtɑːnɪks/ noun [noncount] geology : the structure of the Earth's surface and the ways in which it changes shape over time • Scientists are studying the *tectonics* of the ocean floor. — see also PLATE TECTONICS

ted-dy /ˈtɛdi/ noun, pl **-dies** [count] chiefly US : a piece of light clothing that is worn by women as underwear or in bed

teddy bear noun, pl ~ **bears** [count] : a soft toy bear

te-dious /ˈtiːdɪəs/ adj [more ~; most ~] : boring and too slow or long • He made a *tedious* 45-minute speech. • The work is *tedious*, but it needs to get done.

– **te-dious-ly** adv • a *tediously* long speech – **te-dious-ness** noun [noncount]

te-di-um /ˈtiːdɪəm/ noun [noncount] somewhat formal : the quality or state of being tedious or boring • The movie was three hours of *tedium*. • I took a day off to relieve the *tedium* of work.

tee /ˈtiː/ noun, pl **tees** [count]

1 a : a small peg on which a golf ball is placed so that it can

be hit **b** : an object that is used for holding a football in position so that it can be kicked **c** chiefly US : a post on which a baseball is placed so that a child can hit the ball with a bat in T-ball • a *batting tee*

2 : the area from which a golf ball is first hit to start play on a hole • She hit an excellent drive from the first *tee*. • a *tee shot* [=a first shot that is taken on a hole] • We have an 8 a.m. *tee time*. [=we start playing golf at 8 a.m.]

to a tee : in a perfect or exact way • Her new car fits/suits her *to a tee*. [=to a T] • That's him *to a tee*. [=that is a perfect description of him]

tee verb **tees; teed; tee-ing**

tee off [phrasal verb] **1** : to hit a golf ball for the first time on a hole or in a round • We *teed off* at 8 a.m. • We watched her *tee off* at the ninth hole. **2** **tee off (someone) or tee (someone) off** US, informal : to make (someone) angry • That guy really *tees me off*. — see also TEED OFF **3** **tee off on (someone or something)** US, informal : to speak about (someone or something) in an angry way • The coach *teed off* on his players to the media.

tee up [phrasal verb] **tee up or tee (a ball) up or tee up (a ball)** : to place (a ball) on a tee • It's time to *tee up*. • He *teed up* the ball. = He *teed* the ball *up*.

teed off adj [more ~; most ~] US, informal : angry or annoyed • She was very *teed off*. • a *teed off* customer — see also *tee off* at **TEE**

teem /ˈtiːm/ verb **teems; teemed; teem-ing**

teem with [phrasal verb] **teem with (something)** : to be full of (life and activity) : to have many (people or animals) moving around inside • The river *teems* [=abounds] with fish. — usually used as (be) *teeming with* • The river was *teeming with* fish. • streets *teeming with* shoppers — sometimes used figuratively • My mind is *teeming with* ideas.

— compare **TEEM**

– **teeming** adj • the city's *teeming* [=bustling] streets

teem verb **teems; teemed; teeming** [no obj] of rain : to come down heavily : POUR • They continued to play as the rain *teemed down*. • She waited in the *teeming rain*. • (chiefly Brit) It has been *teeming down* [=raining heavily] all day. = It has been *teeming with rain* all day. — compare **TEEM**

teen /ˈtiːn/ noun, pl **teens** [count] : someone who is between 13 and 19 years old : TEENAGER

– **teen** adj, always used before a noun • He was a *teen* idol. • a *teen* magazine/movie • *teen* [=teenage] pregnancy — see also PRETEEN

teen-age /ˈtiːnˌeɪdʒ/ adj, always used before a noun

1 or **teen-aged** /ˈtiːnˌeɪdʒd/ : between 13 and 19 years old • the *teenage* population • *teenage* boys/girls

2 : relating to people who are between 13 and 19 years old • *teenage* [=teen] pregnancy/rebellion • the *teenage* years

teen-ag-er /ˈtiːnˌeɪdʒə/ noun, pl **-ers** [count] : someone who is between 13 and 19 years old • Their daughter is a *teenager*. • The show is very popular among *teenagers*.

teens /ˈtiːnz/ noun [plural] : the numbers 13 through 19 • The temperature will be in the *teens* today.; especially : the years 13 through 19 in a century or a person's lifetime • Both of my children are in their *teens* now. [=are teenagers now]

teen-sy /ˈtiːnsi/ adj **teen-si-er; -est** [also more ~; most ~] informal : very small : TEENY

teen-sy-ween-sy /ˌtiːnsiˈwiːnsi/ adj **-ween-si-er; -est** [also more ~; most ~] informal : very small : TEENY-WEENY

tee-ny /ˈtiːni/ adj **tee-ni-er; -est** [also more ~; most ~] informal : very small : TINY • I'll just have a *teeny* piece of cake. • I'm a *teeny bit* upset/nervous. • a *teeny little* house • a *teeny tiny* bug

teeny-bop-per /ˈtiːniˌbɒːpə/ noun, pl **-pers** [count] informal + old-fashioned : a girl who is about 11 to 13 years old and who listens to popular music and likes current fashions

tee-ny-wee-ny /ˌtiːniˈwiːni/ adj **-ween-i-er; -est** [also more ~; most ~] informal : very small : TINY • I'll just have a *teeny-weeny* piece of cake. • Aren't you even a *teeny-weeny bit* jealous? • a *teeny-weeny little* house/bug • (humorous) I like the car, too, but there's just one *teeny-weeny little* problem: we can't afford it!

teepee variant spelling of TEPEE

tee shirt variant spelling of T-SHIRT

tee-ter /ˈtiːtə/ verb **-ters; -tered; -ter-ing** [no obj] : to move in an unsteady way back and forth or from side to side • The pile of books *teetered* and fell to the floor. • She *teetered* down the street in her high heels. — often used figuratively • Our relationship *teeters* between friendship and romance. • The bird is *teetering on the edge of* extinction. [=the bird is

almost extinct] • The countries are *teetering on the brink of* war. [=the countries are close to going to war]

tee-ter-tot-ter /'ti:tə,tə:tə/ *noun, pl -ters* [count] *US* : 'SEESAW 1

teeth *plural of TOOTH*

teethe /'ti:ð/ *verb* **teethes; teethed; teeth-ing** [no obj]

1 : to have the first set of teeth begin to grow • The baby is starting to *teethe*. • She is still *teething*.

2 : to bite on something in order to relieve pain caused by teething — usually + *on* • Give her something cold to *teethe on*.

teething ring *noun, pl ~ rings* [count] : a rubber or plastic ring for a baby to bite on when teething

teething troubles *noun* [plural] *Brit* : small problems that happen when a business, project, system, etc., is first started or used • There were some *teething troubles* [=growing pains] when we began our business. — called also *teething problems*

tee-to-tal-er (*chiefly US*) or *chiefly Brit* **tee-to-tal-ler** /'ti:'təʊtlə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count] : someone who never drinks alcohol

— **tee-to-tal** /'ti:'təʊtl/ *adj, Brit* • a *teetotal* store owner • He is *teetotal*.

TEFL /'tɛfl/ *abbr, chiefly Brit* teaching English as a foreign language

Tef-lon /'tɛ,flɑ:n/ *trademark* — used for a substance that is used especially for nonstick coatings on cooking pans

Te-ja-no /tɛr'hɑ:nou/ *noun* [noncount] : a type of popular music from Texas and northern Mexico — often used before another noun • *Tejano* music/singers

tel *abbr* telephone; telephone number

tele- *combining form*

1 : at or over a long distance • *telegram* • *telescope* • *telecommunications* • *television*

2 : television • *telecast*

3 : using a telephone • *telemarketing*

tele-cast /'tɛlɪ,kæst, *Brit* 'tɛlɪ,kɑ:st/ *verb* **-casts; -cast; -cast-ing** [+ obj] : to broadcast (a program) by television • The network will *telecast* [=televise] the game live. — often used as (*be*) *telecast* • The game will *be telecast* live.

— **telecast** *noun, pl -casts* [count] • a live *telecast* of the concert — **tele-cast-er** *noun, pl -ers* [count]

tel-e-com /'tɛlɪ,kɑ:m/ *noun, pl -coms* *somewhat technical*

1 [count] : a telecommunications company • a major *telecom*

2 [noncount] : the telecommunications industry • investments in *telecom* — often used before another noun • *telecom* companies/equipment/services • the *telecom* industry

tele-com-mu-ni-ca-tions /,tɛlɪkə,mju:nə'keɪʃənz/ *noun* [plural] : the technology of sending and receiving signals, images, etc., over long distances by telephone, television, satellite, etc. — often used before another noun • *telecommunications* companies/equipment • the *telecommunications* industry

tele-com-mute /'tɛlɪkə,mju:t/ *verb* **-mutes; -mut-ed; -mut-ing** [no obj] : to work at home by using a computer connection to a company's main office • The company now allows some of its employees to *telecommute*.

— **tele-com-mut-er** *noun, pl -ers* [count]

tele-con-fer-enc-ing /'tɛlɪ,kɑ:nfrɛnsɪŋ/ *noun* [noncount] : the use of telephones and video equipment to have a meeting with people who are in different places • The manager talked to her employees *via/by* (video) *teleconferencing*.

— **tele-con-fer-ence** /'tɛlɪ,kɑ:nfrɛns/ *noun, pl -enc-es* [count] • We had three *teleconferences* in one day.

tele-ge-nic /,tɛlə'dʒɛnɪk/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : tending to look good or seem likable on television • She is very *telegenic*. • a *telegenic* politician — compare *PHOTOGENIC*

tele-gram /'tɛləgræm/ *noun, pl -grams* [count] : a message that is sent by telegraph — called also *wire*

¹**tele-graph** /'tɛləgræf, *Brit* 'tɛlɪgrɑ:f/ *noun, pl -graphs*

1 [noncount] : an old-fashioned system of sending messages over long distances by using wires and electrical signals • I sent the message *by telegraph*.

2 [count] : a device used for sending or receiving messages by telegraph

²**telegraph** *verb* **-graphs; -graphed; -graph-ing**

1 *a* : to send (a message) by telegraph [+ obj] He *telegraphed* a message to her. [no obj] Please *telegraph* when you get there. *b* [+ obj] : to send a telegram to (someone) • Please *telegraph* me when you get there.

2 [+ obj] : to make (something that you are about to do or say) obvious or apparent by the way you move, look, etc. •

The look on her face *telegraphed* bad news. • He lost the boxing match because he was *telegraphing* his punches.

telegraph pole *noun, pl ~ poles* [count] *Brit* : TELEPHONE POLE

tele-mar-ket-ing /,tɛlə'mɑ:kətɪŋ/ *noun* [noncount] *chiefly US* : the activity or job of selling goods or services by calling people on the telephone • He has a job in *telemarketing*. [= (*chiefly Brit*) *telesales*]

— **tele-mar-ket-er** /,tɛlə'mɑ:kətə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count]

te-lem-e-try /tə'lemətri/ *noun* [noncount] *technical* : the process of using special equipment to take measurements of something (such as pressure, speed, or temperature) and send them by radio to another place

tele-path-ic /,tɛlə'pæθɪk/ *adj*

1 : of or relating to telepathy • *telepathic* communication/powers

2 : having the ability to know another person's thoughts without being told what they are : able to read minds • You need to tell me what you're thinking. I'm not *telepathic*.

— **tele-path-i-cal-ly** /,tɛlə'pæθɪkli/ *adv* • The twins seem to communicate *telepathically*.

te-lep-a-thy /tə'lepəθi/ *noun* [noncount] : a way of communicating thoughts directly from one person's mind to another person's mind without using words or signals

¹**tele-phone** /'tɛlə,fəʊn/ *noun, pl -phones*

1 [noncount] : a system that uses wires and radio signals to send sounds (such as people's voices) over long distances : *PHONE* • We spoke *by telephone*. • a *telephone* line/company/operator • I just have to make a quick *telephone call* before we leave. • You can order the cake *over the telephone*. • (*Brit*) He screamed at me *down the telephone*. [=through the telephone]

2 [count] : a device that is connected to a telephone system and that you use to listen or speak to someone who is somewhere else : *PHONE* • The *telephone* has been ringing all morning! • She picked up the *telephone* and dialed the number. • He slammed/put down the *telephone*. • They hired someone to answer the *telephones*. • All our *telephones* are cordless. • I left the *telephone* off the hook. • a public *telephone* • a *cellular telephone* [=cell phone]

on the telephone 1 : using a telephone to talk to someone • She is always (talking) *on the telephone*. [=on the phone] • He came to the door while I was *on the telephone*. 2 *Brit* : connected to a telephone system • the percentage of households *on the telephone* [=on the phone]

telephone



²**telephone** *verb* **-phones; -phoned; -phon-ing** : to speak or try to speak to (someone) using a telephone : to call or phone (someone) [+ obj] He *telephoned* me to say that he was going to be late. • I'll *telephone* the police. [no obj] He *telephoned* to say that he was going to be late. • You never write or *telephone*.

telephone book *noun, pl ~ books* [count] : *PHONE BOOK*

telephone booth *noun, pl ~ booths* [count] *chiefly US* : *PHONE BOOTH*

telephone box *noun*, *pl* ~ **boxes** [count] *Brit* : PHONE BOOTH

telephone directory *noun*, *pl* ~ **-ries** [count] : PHONE BOOK

telephone number *noun*, *pl* ~ **-bers** [count] : a number that you dial on a telephone to reach a particular person, business, etc. : PHONE NUMBER

telephone pole *noun*, *pl* ~ **poles** [count] *chiefly US* : a tall wooden pole that supports the wires of a telephone system — called also (*Brit*) *telegraph pole*

telephone tag *noun* [noncount] *chiefly US* : a situation in which two people keep trying to call each other on the telephone but are unable to reach each other • We've been playing *telephone tag*—she's always out when I call, and vice versa. — called also (*US, informal*) *phone tag*

te-le-pho-nist /tə'leɪfənist/ *noun*, *pl* **-nists** [count] *Brit* : OPERATOR 2

te-le-pho-ny /tə'leɪfəni/ *noun* [noncount] *technical* : the use of a telephone system to send and receive sounds over long distances

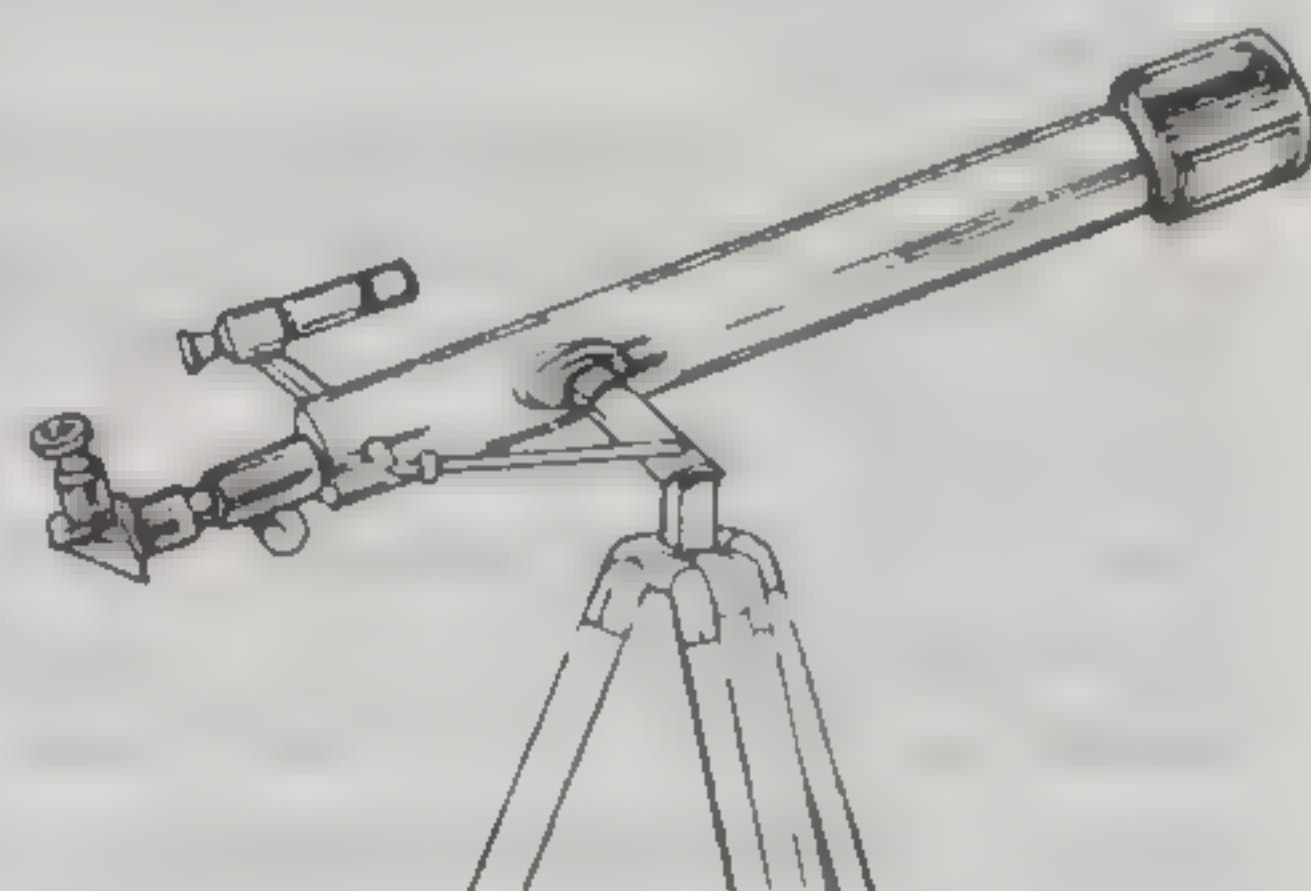
tele-pho-to lens /,telə'fəutəʊ-/ *noun*, *pl* ~ **lenses** [count] : a lens for a camera that makes things that are far away appear to be closer — compare ZOOM LENS

tele-print-er /'telə,prɪntə-/ *noun*, *pl* **-ers** [count] *chiefly Brit* : TELETYPEWRITER

tele-prompt-er /'telə,prɑ:mptə-/ *noun*, *pl* **-ers** [count] *chiefly US* : a machine that helps someone who is speaking to an audience or on television by showing the words that need to be said

tele-sales /'telə,seɪlz/ *noun* [noncount] *chiefly Brit* : TELEMARKETING

¹**tele-scope** /'telə,skəʊp/ *noun*, *pl* **-scopes** [count] : a device shaped like a long tube that you look through in order to see things that are far away • The rings of Saturn can be seen *through a telescope* — see also RADIO TELESCOPE



telescope

²**telescope** *verb* **-scopes; -scoped; -scoping**

1 [no *obj*] : to become shorter by having one section slide inside another somewhat larger section • The radio antenna *telescopes*.

2 [+ *obj*] : to make (something) shorter in length or time — often + *into* • The director needed to *telescope* [=condense] the four-hour movie *into* three hours.

tele-scop-ic /,telə'skɑ:pɪk/ *adj*

1 : made or seen with a telescope • *telescopic* observations/images/views of Mars

2 : having the power to make objects that are far away appear to be closer • a *telescopic* lens • The rifle has a *telescopic* sight.

3 : able to become longer or shorter by having sections that slide inside one another • a *telescopic* antenna • a *telescopic* steering wheel/column

— **tele-scop-i-cal-ly** /,telə'skɑ:pɪkli/ *adv*

tele-text /'telə,tekst/ *noun* [noncount] *technical* : a system for broadcasting written information on television • Television stations use *teletext* to show sports scores and news. • *teletext* services

tele-thon /'telə,θɑ:n/ *noun*, *pl* **-thons** [count] : a long television program that tries to raise money for a charity by asking people to call during the program and make a donation

Tele-type /'telə,taɪp/ *trademark* — used for a teletypewriter

tele-type-writ-er /,telə'taɪp,rɪtə-/ *noun*, *pl* **-ers** [count] *chiefly US* : a machine that prints written messages that have been sent using a telephone system — called also (*chiefly Brit*) *tele-print-er* /'telə,prɪntə-/

tel-evan-ge-list /,telɪ'vændʒəlɪst/ *noun*, *pl* **-lists** [count] : a person and especially a preacher who appears on television in order to teach about Christianity and try to persuade people to become Christians

— **tel-evan-ge-lism** /,telɪ'vændʒə,lɪzəm/ *noun* [noncount]

tele-vise /'telə,vəɪz/ *verb* **-vis-es; -vised; -vis-ing** [+ *obj*] : to broadcast (something) by television • The same network will *televise* the tournament next year. — often used as (*be*) *televised* • The speech will *be televised* live. • *televised* baseball games • a *televised* debate

tele-vi-sion /'telə,vɪʒən/ *noun*, *pl* **-sions**

1 [noncount] : an electronic system of sending images and sounds by a wire or through space • Do you have satellite or cable *television*? [=TV]

2 [count] : a piece of equipment with a screen that receives images and sounds sent by television • Can you turn on/off the *television*? [=TV, (*chiefly Brit*) *telly*] • Please turn up/down the *television*. [=make the television louder/quieter] • wide-screen *televisions* — see picture at LIVING ROOM

3 [noncount] : programs that are broadcast by television • We don't watch much *television*. [=TV, (*chiefly Brit*) *telly*] • a *television* [=TV] program/show/series

4 [noncount] : the television broadcasting industry • She works in *television*. • He's a star of stage, screen, and *television*. • a *television* [=TV] producer/reporter/company

on (the) television : broadcast by television : being shown by television • What is *on the television* [=on TV, (*chiefly Brit*) *on (the) telly*] tonight? • There's nothing *on television* right now. [=there are no programs that I would like to watch now] • The movie will be *on television* next month. • I recognize your face. Are you *on television*? [=do you appear in a television program?]

television set *noun*, *pl* ~ **sets** [count] : TELEVISION 2

tele-work-ing /'telə,wɜ:kɪŋ/ *noun* [noncount] *chiefly Brit* : the activity of working at home and communicating with customers or other workers by using a computer, telephone, etc.

— **tele-work-er** /'telə,wɜ:kə-/ *noun*, *pl* **-ers** [count]

tel-ex /'tel,leks/ *noun*, *pl* **-ex-es**

1 [noncount] : a system of communication in which messages are sent over long distances by using a telephone system and are printed by using a special machine (called a teletypewriter) • The message was sent by *telex*.

2 [count] : a message sent by telex • We received a *telex* from New York.

— **telex** *verb* **-exes; -exed; -ex-ing** [+ *obj*] • He *telexed* her a message.

tell /tɛl/ *verb* **tells; told** /'təʊld/; **tell-ing**

1 [+ *obj*] **a** : to say or write (something) to (someone) • He *told* us the story. • Has she *told* you the good news, yet? • Please *tell* us your name and occupation. • She looked at the palm of my hand and *told* me my fortune. • I promise not to *tell* anyone your secret. = I promise not to *tell* your secret to anyone. — often + *about* • You can *tell* me all *about* your trip at dinner. — often + *that* • If you see her, *tell* her (*that*) we miss her. • People *tell* me (*that*) Paris is nice this time of year. • I keep *telling* myself (*that*) everything will be OK. • My husband *tells/told* me (*that*) you play golf. — often + *what, where, etc.* • He *told* us *what* happened. • Can you *tell* them *how* to play the game while I get the cards? • I *can't tell* you *how* pleased we are [=we are very pleased] that you could join us. ♦ This sense of *tell* is often used informally to emphasize a statement. • You are wrong, I *tell* you • I *can tell* you—it's not worth the hassle. • I'm *telling* you, I don't know anyone by that name. • I'll *tell* you *one thing* she was awfully arrogant. • I'll *tell* you *something/this* I would never have bought that car. • Let me *tell* you (*something*) he may be old, but he can still win baseball games. • To *tell* you the truth, I didn't really like the movie. • "The car turned out to be a lemon!" "What did I *tell* you?" [=you should have listened to me; you should have followed my advice] **b** : to say (a word or words) to (someone) • I didn't get a chance to *tell* him goodbye. [=to say goodbye to him] • If you see her, *tell* her hello for me. • "I feel sick," he *told* his mom.

2 **a** : to give information to (someone) by speaking or writing [+ *obj*] "What is his name?" "I don't know. He didn't *tell* me." • Be sure to *tell* me when they get here. = When they get here, be sure to *tell* me (so). • "I know the answer." "Don't *tell* me [=don't say what the answer is] I want to guess." • "Do you know where the library is?" "I'm sorry. I *couldn't tell* you" [=I don't know] [no *obj*] "Who is the letter from?" "I'm not *telling*." **b** : to let (someone) know a secret [+ *obj*] I promise not to *tell* anyone. • I can't *tell* you because it's a secret. [no *obj*] Your secret is safe with me: I'll never *tell*.

3 [+ *obj*] : to express (something) by speaking • He loves *telling* stories/jokes. • You shouldn't *tell* [=reveal] other people's secrets. • She got in trouble for *telling* a lie. • I'm *telling* the truth. • I didn't really like the movie, to *tell* the truth [=to say what I really think] • Truth *be told* [=to say what the truth is], the food was pretty bad.

4 [+ *obj*] : to give (someone) an instruction or command • Be quiet and do what I *tell* you. = Be quiet and *do as you're told* — usually followed by *to* + *verb* • The police officer *told* him

to stop. • I was *told to stay* here. • I'll *tell them to meet* us there at 6 o'clock. • I *told myself to pick up* some milk on the way home, but I forgot to do it. • You can't *tell me what to do*.

5 : to inform others that someone has done something wrong or behaved badly — used especially by children [*no obj*] If you do that, I'll *tell*. [*+ obj*] I'm *telling* Mom. — see also TELL ON 1 (below)

6 [*+ obj*] : to give information to (someone or something) by doing a particular action or making a particular sound • When the dog scratches at the door, she is *telling* you that she wants to go outside. • The oven will beep to *tell* you when it is preheated.

7 [*+ obj*] : to make (something) known to (someone) • The expressions on their faces *told* me everything I needed to know. • The evidence *tells* us that there were two robbers. • The signs will *tell* you what exit to take off the highway.

8 *not used in progressive tenses* [*+ obj*] : to see or understand the differences between two people or things • I can definitely *tell a/the difference between* the two sauces. • They look exactly the same. How can you *tell which is which*? • I can't *tell who is who* with their uniforms on. • He is old enough to *tell right from wrong*. [=to know what things are good and what things are bad]

9 *not used in progressive tenses* : to see or know (something) with certainty [*+ obj*] It was easy to *tell* that the bill was counterfeit. • It's hard to *tell* if she's kidding or not. — usually used after *can* or *could* • "He's lying." "Really? How *can you tell*?" • I *could tell* (by/from the look on his face) that he was lying. • You *can tell* a lot about a person by the kind of car they drive. • *No one can tell* for sure whether it will happen. • *Who can tell* [=who can predict] what will happen next season? • *You can never tell* what type of mood he will be in. • *You never can tell* how he'll be feeling. [*no obj*] You might win the raffle—you *never can tell*. • *As far/near as I can tell*, he is happy at his new job. [=he seems to me to be happy in his new job]

all told see ²ALL

don't tell me *informal* **1** — used to show that you already know what someone is going to say especially because he or she often says such things • "I have a favor to ask of you." "Don't *tell me*—I bet you need to borrow more money, don't you?" **2** — used to express surprise and disappointment • "Don't *tell me* the concert tickets were all sold out?" "No, I bought the last two tickets."

I'll tell you what also tell you what *informal* — used to introduce a suggestion or to emphasize a statement • (I'll) *Tell you what*—I'll let you borrow the car if you fill it up with gas. • *I tell you what*, I wouldn't pay that much for a pair of shoes.

I told you (so) *informal* — used to say to someone that you were right about something especially when that person disagreed with you • "You were right after all." "See. *I told you so!*"

tell against [*phrasal verb*] *tell against (someone)* *Brit, formal* : to be a disadvantage to (someone) • His unkempt appearance is bound to *tell against* him in court.

tell apart [*phrasal verb*] *tell (someone or something) apart* : to see what the differences are between (people or things) : to identify (people or things that look similar to each other) • They look so much alike that I can barely/hardly/scarcely *tell them apart*. • It is hard *telling* the twins *apart*.

tell it like it is *US, informal* : to say what the facts are : to speak about unpleasant things in an honest way • I don't want to offend anyone; I'm just *telling it like it is*. • You can always count on John to *tell it like it is*.

tell me — used in speech to introduce a question • *Tell me*, is there a subway nearby? • So *tell me*, what did you think of the movie?

tell me about it *informal* — used to say that you understand what someone is talking about because you have had the same or a similar experience • "Something is wrong with that computer." "Yeah, *tell me about it*. I can never get it to work properly."

tell of [*phrasal verb*] *formal + literary* **1** *tell of (something)* **a** : to be evidence of (something) : INDICATE • Her smile *told of* her good news. • His rough hands *tell of* a hard life. **b** : to describe (something) : to make the details of (something) known • The article *tells of* her Arctic journey. • The explorer's journals *tell of* a vast unexplored wilderness. **2** *tell (someone) of (something)* : to talk to (someone) about (something) • He *told us of* his plans to move to the city.

tell off [*phrasal verb*] *tell (someone) off or tell off (someone)* *informal* **1** *US* : to yell at or insult (someone who did or

said something that made you angry) • He wished that he could *tell* his boss *off*. — often + *for* • She *told him off for* spreading rumors about her. **2** *Brit* : to criticize (someone) in an angry way from a position of authority — often + *for* • The teacher *told the girl off for* talking during class.

tell on [*phrasal verb*] **1** *tell on (someone)* *informal* : to tell someone in authority about the bad behavior or actions of (someone) • Please don't *tell on me*. **2** *tell on (someone or something)* *not used in progressive tenses* : to have a noticeable effect on (someone or something) • The stress began to *tell on* her face/health.

tell time or tell the time see ¹TIME

there's no telling — used to say that it is impossible to know something with certainty • *There's no telling* how long the strike will last.

you're telling me *informal* — used to say that you already know and completely agree with something that was just said • "This hot weather is brutal." "You're *telling me*."

tell-all /'tɛl'ɑ:l/ *noun, pl -alls* [*count*] : a book that contains new and usually shocking information about someone or something — often used before another noun • a *tell-all* biography

tell-er /'tɛlə/ *noun, pl -ers* [*count*]

1 : a person who tells something (such as a story) to someone else • a *teller of tales* — see also FORTUNE-TELLER, STORYTELLER

2 : a person who works in a bank and whose job is to receive money from customers and pay out money to customers

3 : a person whose job is to count votes

telling /'tɛlɪŋ/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 : producing a strong or important effect • Her experience is/provides a *telling* example of why the nation's educational system needs to be changed. • The most *telling* moment in the case was when the victim took the stand.

2 : giving information about someone or something without intending to • Her response to the question was very *telling*. [=it showed how she really felt; it revealed something about her character] • a *telling* comment/remark

— *telling-ly* *adv* • *Tellingly*, she chose not to reply.

¹*tell-tale* /'tɛl,tɛɪl/ *adj, always used before a noun* : indicating that something exists or has occurred • The sauce had the *telltale* odor of garlic. • He had the *telltale signs* of smallpox. • Slurred speech is usually a *telltale sign* of intoxication.

²*telltale* *noun, pl -tales* [*count*] *Brit, informal* : TATTLETALE

tel-ly /'tɛli/ *noun, pl tel-lies* *chiefly Brit, informal* : TELEVISION [*count*] Please turn off the *telly*. [*noncount*] I just want to relax and watch the/some *telly*.

on (the) telly : being shown by television • What's *on telly* tonight?

tem-blor /'tɛmblə, Brit tɛm'blɔ:/ *noun, pl -blors* [*count*] *chiefly US, somewhat formal* : EARTHQUAKE • a minor *temblor*

te-mer-i-ty /tə'merəti/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : the quality of being confident and unafraid of danger or punishment especially in a way that seems rude or foolish • No one has the *temerity* [=audacity] to disagree with her. • He was punished for his *temerity*.

¹*temp* /'tɛmp/ *noun, pl temps* [*count*]

1 *chiefly US, informal* : TEMPERATURE • What's the *temp* outside? • Is he *running a temp*? = Does he *have a temp*?

2 : someone who works at a place for a limited and usually short period of time : a temporary worker • We had to hire a *temp* to fill in for her.

²*temp* *verb* *temps; temped; temp-ing* [*no obj*] : to work as a temporary worker • I *temped* [=worked as a temp] in a doctor's office for a couple of months.

tem-peh /'tɛm,peɪ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : an Asian food that is made from fermented soybeans

¹*tem-per* /'tɛmpə/ *noun, pl -pers*

1 **a** [*count*] : the tendency of someone to become angry • She has a bad/hot/quick/terrible/violent *temper*. • That boy has quite a *temper*. • He needs to learn to *control his temper*. • *Tempers flared* [=people became angry] and a fight broke out. • After months of delays, *tempers began to fray*. [=people began to get angry] — see also SHORT TEMPER **b** : a state of being angry [*noncount*] She hit him in a fit of *temper*. [*singular*] He slammed the door and left *in a temper*.

2 [*count*] : calmness of mind : COMPOSURE • I *lost my temper* [=got angry] (with him) and yelled at him. • It's often difficult for parents not to *lose their tempers*. • He was upset but *kept his temper*. [=remained calm; did not become angry, begin shouting, etc.]

3 [*singular*] **a** : the way that a person is feeling at a particular time : MOOD • He is *in a pleasant/foul temper*. **b** : the usual attitude, mood, or behavior of a person or animal • a dog with a good/bad *temper* [=temperament, disposition] • She has an even *temper*. [=she does not easily become angry, upset, etc.] — see also TEMPERED

4 [*noncount*] *formal* : the ideas, attitudes, etc., that a group of people have especially during a particular period of time • Her novels capture the *temper of the times*.

2 *temper* *verb* -pers; -pered; -per-ing [+ *obj*]

1 *formal* : to make (something) less severe or extreme • Higher interest rates have *tempered* [=lessened] the demand for new houses. — often + *with* or *by* • He *tempered* his criticism *with* a few words of encouragement. = He *tempered* his criticism *by* adding a few words of encouragement. — often used as (*be*) *tempered* • He believes in justice *tempered with* mercy.

2 *technical* : to cause (something, such as steel or glass) to become hard or strong by heating it and cooling it • The steel/glass must be properly *tempered*. — see also TEMPERED

tem-pera /'tɛmpərə/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a kind of paint in which the color is mixed with water and usually egg • He paints in/*with tempera*.

tem-per-a-ment /'tɛmprəmənt/ *noun*, *pl* -ments : the usual attitude, mood, or behavior of a person or animal [*count*] She has a nervous *temperament*. [=she is a nervous person] • The dogs have excellent *temperaments*. [=dispositions, tempers] • people with artistic/poetic *temperaments* [*noncount*] The two women were opposite in *temperament*.

tem-per-a-men-tal /,tɛmprə'mentl/ *adj*

1 [*more ~; most ~*] **a** : likely to become upset or angry • a *temperamental* child • The actor is known for being *temperamental*. **b** : unpredictable in behavior or performance • a *temperamental* horse • The old computer is *temperamental*.

2 : of or relating to someone's usual attitude, mood, or behavior • They divorced due to *temperamental* differences.

— **tem-per-a-men-tal-ly** *adv* • *Temperamentally*, he's not suited for the job. • The twins are *temperamentally* different.

tem-per-ance /'tɛmprəns/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 *old-fashioned* : the practice of drinking little or no alcohol • The minister preached about *temperance*.

2 *formal* : the practice of always controlling your actions, thoughts, or feelings so that you do not eat or drink too much, become too angry, etc. • His lifestyle was marked by *temperance*. [=moderation]

tem-per-ate /'tɛmprət/ *adj*

1 : having temperatures that are not too hot or too cold • *temperate* climates/forests/regions/zones

2 *formal* : emotionally calm and controlled • They had a *temperate* discussion. • He is a *temperate* man.

3 *old-fashioned* : avoiding behavior that goes beyond what is normal, healthy, or acceptable • a *temperate* [=moderate] drinker — opposite INTEMPERATE

tem-per-a-ture /'tɛmprə,tʃuə/ *noun*, *pl* -tures

1 : a measurement that indicates how hot or cold something is : a measurement in degrees showing the heat of something (such as air or water) [*count*] The water *temperature* has risen (by) two degrees. [=the water has become two degrees warmer] • Water boils at a *temperature* of 212°F. • The samples are kept/maintained at a constant *temperature*. • The weatherman predicted unusually low/high *temperatures* for the area. • There was a sudden fall/drop in *temperature*. [=it got colder] • a change in *temperature* = a *temperature* change [*noncount*] Keep the wine at *room temperature*. [=the temperature of a room that is comfortable]

2 **a** [*singular*] : a measurement of the heat in a person's body • the normal body *temperature* of 98.6°F • Did you *take his temperature*? [=did you use a thermometer to find out if he had a fever?] **b** [*count*] : a level of heat that is above what is normal for the human body : FEVER • I *have a temperature*. = I am *running a temperature*.

3 [*count*] *formal* : the level of anger, excitement, etc., in a situation • The governor's speech *raised/lowered the political temperature*. [=it made people more/less angry about the political situation] • The love affair *raised the temperature* of the story. [=it made the story more exciting]

tem-pered /'tɛmpəd/ *adj*, *always used before a noun* : brought to the desired hardness or strength by heating and cooling • *tempered* steel/glass — see also BAD-TEMPERED,

GOOD-TEMPERED, ILL-TEMPERED, QUICK-TEMPERED, SHORT-TEMPERED

tem-pest /'tɛmpɛst/ *noun*, *pl* -pests [*count*] *literary* : a violent storm — often used figuratively • A *tempest* is brewing over the new tax laws. • a *tempest* of controversy/emotions

a tempest in a teapot *US* : a situation in which people are upset or angry about something that is not very important

• The whole problem/controversy turned out to be a *tempest in a teapot*. [= (Brit) a storm in a teacup]

tem-pes-tu-ous /tɛm'pestʃəwəs/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 *literary* : affected by a tempest : STORMY • a *tempestuous* sea • *tempestuous* weather

2 : full of strong emotions (such as anger or excitement) : STORMY • a *tempestuous* romance/relationship/debate

tem-plate /'tɛmplət/ *noun*, *pl* -plates [*count*]

1 : a shape or pattern that is cut out of a hard material (such as metal or plastic) and used to make the same shape and pattern in other pieces of material

2 *computers* : a computer document that has the basic format of something (such as a business letter, chart, graph, etc.) and that can be used many different times • The software includes *templates* for common marketing documents like pamphlets and flyers.

3 : something that is used as an example of how to do, make, or achieve something — often + *for* • The bridge's design became a *template* for other bridges. • Her career was my *template* for success in the publishing industry. [=I followed her example of how to succeed in the publishing industry]

1 *tem-ple* /'tɛmpəl/ *noun*, *pl* *tem-ples*

1 **a** [*count*] : a building for worship • Buddhist/Hindu/Jewish/Mormon *temples* • ancient Greek *temples* — compare CHURCH, MOSQUE, SYNAGOGUE **b** [*noncount*] *chiefly US* : religious services held in a temple • Friday evenings we *go to temple*. [=attend services] • He is *at temple*.

2 [*count*] : a meeting place for the members of a local group that is part of a larger organization • a Masonic *temple*

— compare ²TEMPLE

2 *temple* *noun*, *pl* *temples* [*count*] : the small, flat area on each side of your forehead — see picture at FACE — compare ¹TEMPLE

tem-po /'tɛmpou/ *noun*

1 *pl* *tem-pos* also *tem-pi* /'tɛmpi/ : the speed at which a musical piece is played or sung [*count*] The song has a slow/fast/upbeat *tempo*. [*noncount*] The composition has many changes of *tempo*. — compare RHYTHM; see also UP-TEMPO

2 *pl* *temp-os* : the speed at which something moves or happens : PACE [*count*] We walked at a fast *tempo*. • The *tempo* of the game slowed down. [*noncount*] The dance starts out fast and then switches *tempo*.

1 *tem-po-ral* /'tɛmpərəl/ *adj*

1 *formal* : of or relating to life on the earth and not spiritual life • the *temporal* [=secular] and spiritual worlds

2 *technical* : of or relating to time • They are studying the spatial and *temporal* patterns of weather systems.

— compare ²TEMPORAL

2 *temporal* *adj*, *always used before a noun* : located near the temples at the sides of the forehead • the *temporal* bone/lobe — compare ¹TEMPORAL

tem-po-rary /'tɛmpə,ri/ *adj*

1 : continuing for a limited amount of time : not permanent • The drug will give you *temporary* relief from the pain. • a *temporary* job • The delay is only *temporary*.

2 : intended to be used for a limited amount of time • *temporary* workers • The settlers built *temporary* shelters. • a *temporary* solution

— **tem-po-rari-ly** /,tɛmpə'rerəli/ *adv* • We lost power *temporarily*. • The store is *temporarily* closed for renovations.

tem-po-rize also *Brit* **tem-po-rise** /'tɛmpə,raɪz/ *verb* -rizes; -rized; -riz-ing [*no obj*] *formal* : to avoid making a decision or giving a definite answer in order to have more time • Pressured by voters on both sides of the issue, the congressmen *temporized*.

tempt /'tɛmpt/ *verb* tempts; tempt-ed; tempt-ing [+ *obj*]

: to cause (someone) to do or want to do something even though it may be wrong, bad, or unwise • The smell of the pie *tempted* me, but I resisted. [=I wanted some pie but did not eat any] • He *tempted* [=enticed] me with the offer of more money. — often + *into* • The smell of the pie *tempted* me *into* having a piece. [=it caused me to eat a piece of pie] • The saleswoman tried to *tempt us into* buying a more expensive model. — often followed by *to* + *verb* • The saleswoman tried to *tempt us to buy* a more expensive model. — often

used as *(be) tempted* • “Would you like some more pie?” “I’m *tempted*, but no thank you.” • Students may *be tempted to cheat* on the test. [=they may consider cheating on the test] • I *was sorely tempted to say* [=I very much wanted to say] something rude to her, but I didn’t. • She *was tempted to quit* and find a new job. • I’m *tempted* [=I’m inclined] *to say* yes, but I’m not completely sure.

tempt fate : to do something that is very risky or dangerous
• He felt it would be *tempting fate* if he invested all his money in one company. • Race car drivers *tempt fate* every time they race.

tempt·ta·tion /tɛmpˈteɪʃən/ *noun, pl -tions*

1 : a strong urge or desire to have or do something [count] — often followed by *to* + *verb* • I resisted the *temptation to buy* the shoes. • He could not resist the *temptation to show off* his new car. • Don’t give in to the *temptation to snack* between meals. • There is always a/the *temptation to procrastinate*. [noncount] She gave in to *temptation*. = She succumbed to *temptation*.

2 [count] : something that causes a strong urge or desire to have or do something and especially something that is bad, wrong, or unwise • Money/power is always a *temptation*. • The dessert menu has a lot of delicious *temptations*. • the *temptations* of the city

tempt·ing /tɛmpˈtɪŋ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : causing an urge or desire to have or do something • The desserts look very *tempting*. • It is *tempting* to think of him as the next American president. • It was a *tempting* [=enticing] offer.

– **tempt·ing·ly** *adv* • It is *temptingly* easy to cheat on taxes. • The desserts were *temptingly* [=enticingly] displayed.

tempt·ress /tɛmpˈtrɛs/ *noun, pl -ress·es* [count] : a woman who makes a man want to have sex with her : a very attractive woman • a seductive *temptress*

tem·pu·ra /tɛmˈpʊrə/ *noun* [noncount] : a Japanese dish that is made of seafood or vegetables that are covered in batter and fried

ten /tɛn/ *noun, pl tens*

1 [count] : the number 10

2 [count] : the tenth in a set or series • the *ten* of spades • page *ten*

3 [noncount] : ten o’clock • “What time is it” “It’s *ten*.”

4 [count] **a** US : a ten-dollar bill • The total cost was \$7.83 and she gave him a *ten*. • Do you have any fives or *tens*? **b** Brit : a ten-pound note

5 [singular] **a** : something that is the best • The food at the restaurant is a (perfect) *ten*. **b** : a very attractive person • She’s a *ten*.

ten a penny Brit, *informal* : very common • Thrillers are *ten a penny* [= (US) a dime a dozen] these days.

ten out of ten — used to say that something was done very well • I’ll give them *ten out of ten* for creativity.

ten to one *informal* : very likely • *Ten to one* they’ll lose. [=I think they’ll almost certainly lose]

– **ten** *adj* • *ten* cars/guests/choices – **ten** *pronoun* • *Ten* (of them) passed the test.

ten·a·ble /tɛnəˈbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *formal* : capable of being defended against attack or criticism • The theory is no longer *tenable*. [=defensible] • a *tenable* argument

te·na·cious /təˈneɪʃəs/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 **a** : not easily stopped or pulled apart : firm or strong • The company has a *tenacious* hold on the market. • a *tenacious* grip **b** : continuing for a long time • *tenacious* myths/traditions • a *tenacious* effort/battle

2 : very determined to do something • He is a *tenacious* [=persistent] negotiator/competitor. • She is quite *tenacious*.

– **te·na·cious·ly** *adv* • She clung *tenaciously* to her beliefs. • He fought *tenaciously*. – **te·nac·i·ty** /təˈnæsəti/ *noun* [noncount] • I am impressed by their *tenacity*. • She fought with great *tenacity*.

ten·an·cy /tɛnənsi/ *noun, pl -cies* *formal*

1 **a** [noncount] : the right to use another person’s property (such as land, a house, etc.) for a short period of time • He was granted *tenancy* of the farm. **b** [count] : the amount of time during which you are allowed to use another person’s property • a 12-month *tenancy* • During his *tenancy*, he tried to make as many improvements as he could.

2 [noncount] : the state or fact of owning property (such as land, a house, etc.) • They had joint *tenancy* of the building. [=they owned the building together/jointly]

ten·ant /tɛnənt/ *noun, pl -ants* [count] : a person, business, group, etc., that pays to use another person’s property : someone who rents or leases a house, apartment, etc., from

a landlord • A *tenant* is now leasing the apartment.

tenant farmer *noun, pl ~ -mers* [count] : a farmer who raises crops on land that is rented from someone else

tend /tɛnd/ *verb* **tends; tend·ed; tend·ing**

1 [no obj] **a** — used to describe what often happens or what someone often does or is likely to do; followed by *to* + *verb* • He *tends to slouch*. • I have to be careful about what I eat because I *tend to gain* weight easily. • People in my family *tend to be* tall. [=a lot of people in my family are tall] • The store *tends to get* busy [=the store is often/usually busy] on week-ends. • I *tend not to trust* politicians. [=I often/usually don’t trust politicians] **b** — used to describe a quality that someone or something often has or is likely to have; + *toward* or *towards* • He *tends towards* perfectionism. [=he tends to be a perfectionist] • Her decorating style *tends toward* the informal. [=tends to be informal]

2 : to give your attention to and take care of (something or someone) [+ obj] Please *tend* [=mind] the store while I’m away. • She *tends* her garden daily. • well-*tended* gardens • He *tended* his ailing mother. [no obj] — + *to* • I have to *tend to* (the) business. • The nurse *tended to* their wounds.

tend bar see ¹BAR

ten·den·cy /tɛndənsi/ *noun, pl -cies* [count]

1 : a quality that makes something likely to happen or that makes someone likely to think or behave in a particular way • The door has a *tendency* to get stuck. [=the door often gets stuck] • She has a *tendency* to overreact. = She has a *tendency* toward/towards overreacting. [=she tends to overreact; she often overreacts] • She displayed criminal *tendencies* [=she behaved in ways that suggested she was going to become a criminal] even when she was very young.

2 : a way of behaving, proceeding, etc., that is developing and becoming more common • There is a growing *tendency* among young people to continue living with their parents after college. [=more and more young people are continuing to live with their parents after college] • The economy has shown a general *tendency* toward inflation.

ten·den·tious /tɛnˈdɛnfəs/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *formal* + *disapproving* : strongly favoring a particular point of view in a way that may cause argument : expressing a strong opinion • He made some extremely *tendentious* remarks.

– **ten·den·tious·ly** *adv* – **ten·den·tious·ness** *noun* [noncount]

¹**ten·der** /tɛndə/ *adj* **-der·er; -est** [or more ~; most ~]

1 : very loving and gentle : showing affection and love for someone or something • He gave her a *tender* look. • She was *tender* and loving with her new child. • *tender* words • a *tender* love song

2 *of food* : easy to chew or bite : not tough • a *tender*, juicy steak • Cook the pasta until it is just *tender*.

3 : painful when touched : SORE • Her wrist was swollen and *tender*.

4 : easily damaged : delicate and weak • *tender* young plants — sometimes used figuratively • He has a *tender* [=sensitive] ego. • *tender* pride

tender loving care : extra attention to make someone or something look or feel better • You need a little *tender loving care*. [=TLC] • an antique chair that needs some *tender loving care*

tender (young) age : a very young age • She left home at the *tender young age* of 14. • He was playing the piano at a *tender age*.

– **ten·der·ly** *adv* [more ~; most ~] • He kissed her *tenderly*. • She will be *tenderly* cared for. – **ten·der·ness** *noun* [noncount]

²**tender** *verb* **-ders; -dered; -der·ing**

1 [+ obj] *formal* : to give or offer (something, such as a payment or a letter) • The defendant must *tender* full payment. • I *tendered* my resignation today.

2 [no obj] Brit : to offer to do work or to provide goods for a particular price : to make a bid for something — + *for* • We *tendered for* [= (US) *bid for*] the job/contract.

³**tender** *noun, pl -ders* [count] US, *informal* : a small piece of chicken meat that is usually cooked by being breaded and fried • Can I have an order of chicken *tenders*? — compare ⁴TENDER

⁴**tender** *noun, pl -ders* [count]

1 : a ship that carries passengers or cargo between the shore and a larger ship • a submarine *tender*

2 : a car that is attached to a train and that carries fuel and water • a coal *tender*

– compare ³TENDER; see also LEGAL TENDER

ten·der·foot /'tendə,fʊt/ *noun*, *pl* **-feet** /-,fi:t/ *also* **-foots** /-,fʊts/ [*count*] *US, informal*

1 : someone who has just started doing something : **BEGINNER** • a political *tenderfoot*

2 : a person who is not used to living in rough conditions or outdoors

ten·der·heart·ed /'tendə,hɑ:təd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : very gentle and kind : showing love, kindness, or pity • She is a *tender-hearted* [=compassionate] mother. • a *tender-hearted* pet owner

ten·der·ize *also* *Brit* **ten·der·ise** /'tendə,raɪz/ *verb* **-iz·es**; **-ized**; **-iz·ing** [*+ obj*] : to make (meat) softer before cooking it so that it is easier to cut and eat • The marinade helps to *tenderize* the meat.

— **ten·der·i·za·tion** *also* *Brit* **ten·der·i·sa·tion** /,tendər-ə'zeɪʃən, *Brit* ,tendə,raɪ'zeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] — **ten·der·iz·er** *also* *Brit* **ten·der·is·er** /'tendə,raɪzə/ *noun*, *pl* **-ers** [*count, noncount*]

ten·der·loin /'tendə,lɔɪn/ *noun*, *pl* **-loins** [*count, noncount*] : a piece of very tender meat from the back of a cow or pig • beef/pork *tenderloin*

tender offer *noun*, *pl* ~ **-fers** [*count*] *business* : an offer to buy a certain number of stock shares of a company for a set price in order to gain control of the company

ten·di·ni·tis *also* **ten·do·ni·tis** /,tendə'naitəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : a painful condition in which a tendon in your arm, leg, etc., becomes inflamed • She was diagnosed with *tendinitis* of the elbow. • I have *tendinitis* in my knee.

ten·don /'tendən/ *noun*, *pl* **-dons** [*count*] : a tough piece of tissue in your body that connects a muscle to a bone — compare **LIGAMENT**

ten·dril /'tendrəl/ *noun*, *pl* **-drils** [*count*]

1 : the thin stem of a climbing plant that attaches to walls, fences, etc.

2 : something that is thin and curly • A few *tendrils* of hair framed her face. • *tendrils* of smoke

ten·e·ment /'tenəmənt/ *noun*, *pl* **-ments** [*count*] : a large building that has apartments or rooms for rent and that is usually in a poorer part of a city • inner-city *tenements* • a *tenement* building/apartment — called also *tenement house*

te·net /'tenət/ *noun*, *pl* **-nets** [*count*] *formal* : a belief or idea that is very important to a group • the central *tenets* of a religion • one of the basic *tenets* of the fashion industry

ten·fold /'ten,fəʊld/ *adj* : ten times as much or as many • a *tenfold* increase in sales

— **ten·fold** /'ten'fəʊld/ *adv* • Online sales increased *tenfold*.

ten-gallon hat *noun*, *pl* ~ **hats** [*count*] *US* : COWBOY HAT

Tenn. *abbr* Tennessee

ten·ner /'tenə/ *noun*, *pl* **-ners** [*count*] *Brit, informal* : a ten-pound note

ten·nies /'teniz/ *noun* [*plural*] *US, informal* : TENNIS SHOES • a pair of *tennies*

ten·nis /'tenəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a game that is played by two people or two pairs of people on a special court (called a tennis court) where they hit a small ball back and forth over a net using rackets • a game of *tennis* = a *tennis* game • a *tennis* racket/ball — see pictures at **BALL**, **RACKET**; see also **LAWN TENNIS**, **TABLE TENNIS**

tennis court *noun*, *pl* ~ **courts** [*count*] : a large rectangular area that you play tennis on

tennis elbow *noun* [*noncount*] : a condition in which you have pain on the outer side of your elbow that is caused by twisting or straining your lower arm

tennis shoe *noun*, *pl* ~ **shoes** [*count*] : a low shoe that is worn while playing sports (such as tennis) or exercising : **SNEAKER**

ten·on /'tenən/ *noun*, *pl* **-ons** [*count*] *technical* : an end of a piece of wood that is cut into a special shape to fit into a hole (called a mortise) in another piece of wood and form a strong joint

¹ten·or /'tenə/ *noun*, *pl* **-ors**

1 [*count*] : the highest adult male singing voice • He has a high, lilting *tenor*; *also* : a singer who has such a voice • She asked the *tenors* to sing the line again. — compare **ALTO**, **BASS**, **SOPRANO**

2 [*singular*] : the general or basic quality or meaning of something • I was surprised by the angry *tenor* [=tone] of her letter. • The *tenor* of his remarks is clear.

²tenor *adj*, *used before a noun* : having a range that is lower than an alto and higher than a baritone • Verdi wrote some difficult *tenor* parts. • She plays the *tenor* sax/saxophone.

ten·pin /'ten,pɪn/ *noun*, *pl* **-pins**

1 [*count*] : one of the large bottle-shaped pieces that is knocked down with a ball in the game of tenpin bowling

2 **tenpins** [*plural*] *US* : TENPIN BOWLING • a game of *tenpins*

tenpin bowling *noun* [*noncount*] : a game in which players try to knock down 10 pins by rolling a large ball towards them

¹tense /'tens/ *adj* **tens·er**; **-est**

1 : nervous and not able to relax • She was feeling pretty *tense*. • Why are you so *tense*?

2 : showing or causing nervousness • a *tense* situation • We sat quietly for a few *tense* moments. • It was a *tense* meeting. • a *tense* thriller

3 : not relaxed but hard and tight • My calf muscles are really *tense*. • *tense* muscles

— **tense·ly** *adv* • She looked at him *tensely*. • We sat *tensely*.

— **tense·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

²tense *verb* **tens·es**; **tensed**; **tens·ing**

1 : to make (a muscle) hard and tight [*+ obj*] She *tensed* her shoulders. [*no obj*] Her shoulders *tensed* (up).

2 [*no obj*] : to become nervous or tense • She *tensed* as he walked toward her. • He *tensed up* and missed the putt.

— **tensed** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] • I was feeling *tensed*. [=tense] — often + up • feeling *tensed up*

³tense *noun*, *pl* **tenses** *grammar* : a form of a verb that is used to show when an action happened [*count*] The sentence will read better if you change the *tense* of the verb. [*noncount*] You should avoid changing *tense* in the middle of a paragraph. — see also **FUTURE TENSE**, **PAST TENSE**, **PERFECT TENSE**, **PRESENT TENSE**

ten·sile /'tensəl, *Brit* 'ten,sajəl/ *adj*, *technical* : relating to the amount that something (such as a wire) can stretch or be stretched without breaking • the *tensile* strength of steel cable

ten·sion /'tɛnsən/ *noun*, *pl* **-sions**

1 [*noncount*] **a** : a feeling of nervousness that makes you unable to relax • You can see she is just filled with *tension* about her job. **b** : a feeling of nervousness, excitement, or fear that is created in a movie, book, etc. • The dramatic *tension* was very satisfying. • The author resolves the *tension* too soon.

2 : a state in which people, groups, countries, etc., disagree with and feel anger toward each other [*count*] Political *tensions* in the region make it unstable. [*noncount*] Do you sense the *tension* between those two? • There was a lot of *tension* at the meeting. • The book describes the *tension*-filled days before the war.

3 : a difficult situation caused by the opposite needs or effects of two different ideas, desires, etc. [*count*] He felt a *tension* between duty and love. [*noncount*] There will always be some *tension* between the desire to reduce risk and the desire to make as much money as possible.

4 [*noncount*] : the degree to which something is stretched : the amount that something is stretched • I don't like the *tension* on this tennis racket. • muscle *tension* [=tightness] • She has a lot of *tension* in her shoulders.

— see also **HIGH-TENSION**, **SURFACE TENSION**

tent /'tent/ *noun*, *pl* **tents** [*count*] : a portable shelter that is used outdoors, is made of cloth (such as canvas or nylon), and is held up with poles and ropes • We will *pitch the tent* [=put our tent up, set our tent up] here. — see picture at **CAMPING**; see also **OXYGEN TENT**

— **tent·like** /'tent,lʌk/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] • a *tentlike* structure

ten·ta·cle /'tentɪkəl/ *noun*, *pl* **-ta·cles**

1 [*count*] : one of the long, flexible arms of an animal (such as an octopus) that are used for grabbing things and moving

2 **tentacles** [*plural*] *often disapproving* : power or influence that reaches into many areas • The corporation's *tentacles* are felt in every sector of the industry. • the *tentacles* of organized crime

ten·ta·tive /'tentətɪv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : not done with confidence : uncertain and hesitant • a *tentative* smile • the baby's first *tentative* steps

2 : not definite : still able to be changed • We have *tentative* plans for the weekend. • *tentative* approval

— **ten·ta·tive·ly** *adv* • We have *tentatively* made plans for the weekend. • The meeting is *tentatively* scheduled for Friday.

— **ten·ta·tive·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

tent·ed /'tentəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : made up of or filled with tents • a *tented* village

2 : having a peak like a tent : shaped like the inside of a tent
• a high *tented* ceiling/room

ten·ter·hooks /ˈtɛntəˌhuks/ *noun*

on tenterhooks : waiting nervously for something to happen : in a state of nervousness or excitement caused by wondering what will happen • She keeps her readers *on tenterhooks* throughout the book. • I've been *on tenterhooks* since I applied for the job.

¹tenth /ˈtɛnθ/ *noun, pl tenths*

1 [*singular*] : the number 10 in a series • the *tenth* of February • He was *tenth* in line.

2 [*count*] : one of 10 equal parts of something • He traded stocks for one *tenth* their face value. • I only paid a *tenth* of what you did for that jacket.

²tenth *adj* : occupying the number ten position in a series • This year is our *tenth* wedding anniversary. • the *tenth* grade — **tenth** *adv* • the world's *tenth* largest country

ten·u·ous /ˈtɛnjəwəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : not certain, definite, or strong : flimsy, weak, or uncertain • He has a *tenuous* grasp/grip/hold on reality. • a *tenuous* hypothesis/relationship • The local theater has had a *tenuous* existence in recent years. • He could demonstrate only a *tenuous* claim to ownership. • The connection between his absence and the robbery is *tenuous* [=shaky] at best.

2 *literary* : very thin • the silkworm's *tenuous* threads

— **ten·u·ous·ly** *adv* • He was *tenuously* linked to the crime.

ten·ure /ˈtɛnjə/ *noun, pl -ures*

1 [*count*] : the amount of time that a person holds a job, office, or title • During his *tenure* as head coach, the team won the championship twice. • her 12-year *tenure* with the company • His *tenure* in office will end with the next election.

2 [*noncount*] : the right to keep a job (especially the job of being a professor at a college or university) for as long as you want to have it • After seven years I was finally granted *tenure*. • He hopes to get *tenure* next year.

3 [*noncount*] *law* : the right to use property • The defendant did not have *tenure* on the land. • land *tenure* in Anglo-Saxon Britain

— **ten·ured** /ˈtɛnjəd/ *adj, US* • She became a *tenured* professor. • *tenured* faculty members

tenure-track *adj, US* : relating to or having a teaching job that may lead to tenure (sense 2) • This is a *tenure-track* position. • *tenure-track* faculty

te·pee or **tee·pee** also **ti·pi**

/ˈtiːpi/ *noun, pl -pees or -pis*

[*count*] : a tent that is shaped like a cone and that was used in the past by some Native Americans as a house

tep·id /ˈtɛpəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : not hot and not cold : WARM • a *tepid* [=lukewarm] bath

2 : not energetic or excited • He gave a *tepid* performance. • My suggestion was given a *tepid* response.

te·qui·la /təˈkiːlə/ *noun, pl*

-las [*count, noncount*] : a strong, clear alcoholic drink from Mexico

ter·i·ya·ki /ˌtɛriˈjɑːki/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : a sauce used in some Asian cooking • Marinate the meat in *teriyaki* (sauce).

2 : a dish that is flavored with teriyaki • chicken *teriyaki* = *teriyaki* chicken

¹term /ˈtɜːm/ *noun, pl terms*

T a [*count*] : a word or phrase that has an exact meaning • “I had the feeling that I had been there before.” “The *term* for that is ‘déjà vu.’” • That's an outdated *term* that no one uses anymore. • scientific/technical *terms* **b terms** [*plural*] : the particular kinds of words used to describe someone or something • He spoke about them in glowing *terms*. • The law had been understood in broad *terms*. • in economic *terms* • He expressed his disapproval in no uncertain *terms*. [=in very strong and clear language]

2 [*count*] **a** : the length of time during which a person has an official or political office • The governor will run for a second *term*. • He is currently serving his third *term* in the U.S. Senate. • She made many changes during her *term* off/in

office. [=during the time when she was in office] • He is in favor of *term limits* for members of Congress. [=he believes that members of Congress should only be allowed to serve for a specified number of terms] **b** : the length of time during which someone is in a prison, jail, etc. • He was sentenced to a ten-year *term* in the state penitentiary. • a long jail/prison *term* • a *term* of imprisonment **c** : the length of time during which something (such as a contract) continues • The *term* of the contract is 60 months. — see also LONG TERM, MEDIUM-TERM, SHORT TERM

3 [*count*] : one of the parts of the school year • His grades have improved since last *term*. • English 122 is not offered this *term*.

4 **terms** [*plural*] : the conditions or rules that limit something (such as an agreement or a contract) : the things that must be agreed upon in order for something to happen or continue • They would not agree to our *terms*. • She objected to the *terms* of the contract. • Early payment is not permitted under the *terms* of our agreement.

5 **terms** [*plural*] — used to describe the kind of relationship that people have with each other • He was *on good terms* with his ex-wife. [=he and his ex-wife were friendly with each other] • He left the team *on bad terms*. • They are no longer *on speaking terms*. [=they are no longer speaking to each other] • (Brit) He is *on first-name terms* with his staff.

6 [*noncount*] *medical* : the time at which a pregnancy of normal length ends • She carried the baby *to term*. = She carried the baby *full term*. [=to the natural end of the pregnancy]

come to terms **1** : to reach an agreement • The two sides have not been able to *come to terms*. — often + *with* • The company has *come to terms* with the union. **2** : to learn how to accept or live with something that is difficult or painful — + *with* • It took him a long time to *come to terms* with the end of his marriage. • She has found it hard to *come to terms* with the demands of her job.

contradiction in terms see CONTRADICTION

in terms of — used to indicate the specific thing that is being described, thought of, etc. • The car is great *in terms of* gas mileage [=the car's gas mileage is great], but it's not very comfortable. • He thinks of everything *in terms of* money. [=his judgments/opinions about everything are based on thoughts about money]

on your (own) terms : according to your own wishes : in your own way • She wants to succeed *on her own terms*. • If I agree to help, it will only be *on my terms*.

term of address see ²ADDRESS

term of endearment see ENDEARMENT

terms of reference *Brit* : a description of what must be dealt with and considered when something is being done, studied, etc. • The *terms of reference* for the committee are narrow and specific.

²term *verb terms; termed; term·ing* [+ *obj*] : to give a particular name or description to (something) : to call (something) by a particular name or to describe (something) in a particular way • They *termed* the structure a “double helix.” • The project was *termed* a success.

ter·mi·na·ble /ˈtɜːmənəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : able to be ended • His employment was *terminable* at the will of his employer. • The contract will be *terminable* by either party.

¹ter·mi·nal /ˈtɜːmənəl/ *adj*

1 a : causing death eventually : leading finally to death • She was diagnosed with *terminal* cancer. • a *terminal* [=fatal] illness/disease **b** : having an illness that cannot be cured and that will soon lead to death • a *terminal* patient **c** : of or relating to patients who have a terminal illness • *terminal* care

2 informal : very bad or severe • I was suffering from *terminal* boredom. • another person with *terminal* stupidity

3 : at the end : forming or coming at the end of something • branches that end in a *terminal* bud • We're on the *terminal* [=final] leg of our trip. • The *terminal* [=last] stop for this line is Boston.

in terminal decline *Brit* : getting worse without any chance to improve • The business is *in terminal decline*.

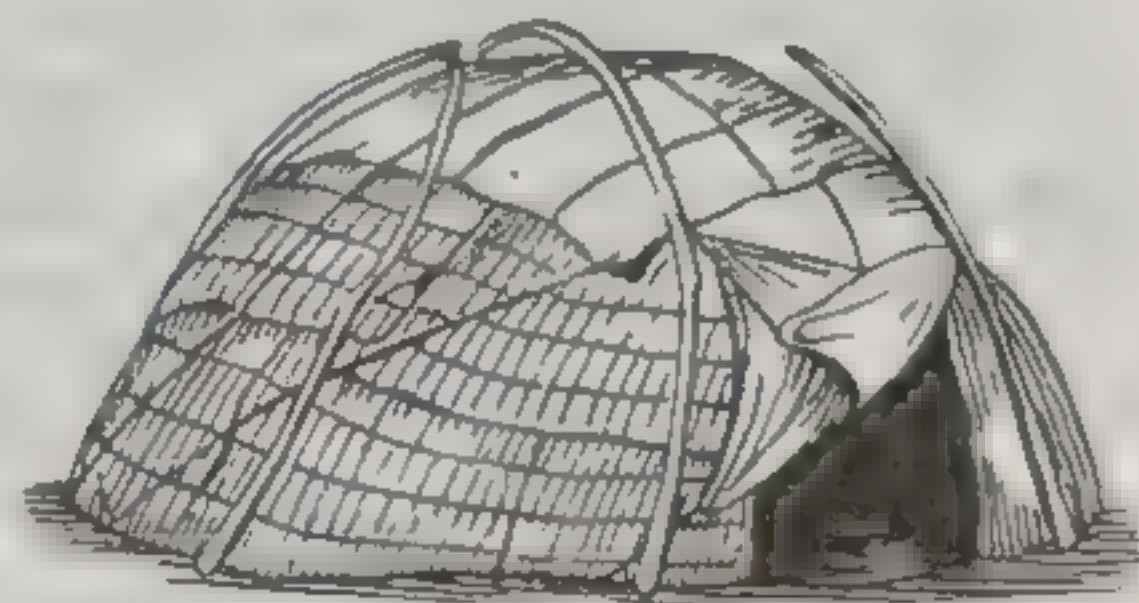
— **ter·mi·nal·ly** *adv* • He is *terminally* ill. [=he has a disease that cannot be cured and will cause his death]

²terminal *noun, pl -nals* [*count*]

1 a : a building where buses or trains regularly stop so that passengers can get on and off : STATION • I will meet you outside the bus *terminal*. **b** : a building at an airport where people get on and off airplanes • Flight 1584 is now departing from Gate 6 in *Terminal* A. • You are not allowed in the *terminal* without a ticket.



tepee



wigwam

2 : a computer or a combination of a keyboard and a video display that is connected to a system and used for entering or receiving data • Ten *terminals* are connected to this server.

3 : a part on a piece of electrical equipment (such as a car battery) where you make an electrical connection • You will need to clean the corrosion off the battery *terminals*.

ter-mi-nate /'təmə,neɪt/ *verb* -nates; -nat-ed; -nat-ing *formal*

1 [*no obj*] : to end in a particular way or at a particular place • The branches of that tree *terminate* in flower clusters. • The rail line *terminates* in Boston.

2 [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to end • *terminate* a pregnancy • You have to *terminate* the program before the computer will shut down properly. • His contract was *terminated* last month. • They *terminated* their agreement.

3 [+ *obj*] *US* : to take a job away from (someone) : FIRE • He was *terminated* last month. • Plans are being made to *terminate* unproductive employees.

ter-mi-na-tion /,təmə'neɪʃən/ *noun, pl -tions formal*

1 : an act of ending something [*noncount*] The law protects against unfair contract *termination*. • the *termination* of a lease [*count*] an early *termination* of the contract

2 *US* : the act of making a person leave a job : the act of firing or dismissing someone [*count*] The company noted over 300 *terminations* last quarter. [*noncount*] Are there plans for the *termination* of unproductive employees?

3 [*count, noncount*] : an operation to end a pregnancy before the mother would have given birth : ABORTION

termini *plural of TERMINUS 2*

ter-mi-nol-o-gy /,təmə'nɒ:lədʒi/ *noun, pl -gies* : the special words or phrases that are used in a particular field [*noncount*] legal/medical *terminology* [*count*] a lexicon covering the *terminologies* of several scientific fields

— **ter-mi-no-log-i-cal** /,təmə'nɒ'lɒ:dʒɪkəl/ *adj*

term insurance *noun* [*noncount*] : a type of insurance that is provided for a specified period of time

ter-mi-nus /'təmə'nəs/ *noun* [*count*]

1 *pl ter-mi-nus-es* : the end of a travel route (such as a rail or bus line) or the station at the end of a travel route • Stockholm is the *terminus* for the southbound train. • a bus *terminus*

2 *pl ter-mi-ni* /'təmə'nai/ *technical* : the end of something • Geologists took samples from the *terminus* of the glacier. • the *terminus* of the DNA strand

ter-mite /'tə,maɪt/ *noun, pl -mites* [*count*] : a kind of soft, white insect that lives in groups, eats wood, and causes a lot of damage to wooden structures • *termite* colonies • The house has a lot of *termite* damage. — see color picture on page C10

term paper *noun, pl ~ -pers* [*count*] *US* : a long essay that usually requires research and that is written by a student as part of a course or class • I have a *term paper* due next week.

term time *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : the part of the year in which schools and universities are holding classes • He's in Cambridge during *term time*.

tern /'tɜːn/ *noun, pl terns* [*count*] : a kind of bird that lives near the ocean, is usually black and white, and has long wings and a tail with two points

ter-race /'terəs/ *noun, pl -rac-es*

1 [*count*] : a flat area created on the side of a hill and used especially for growing crops • rice growing in/on hillside *terraces*

2 [*count*] : a flat area next to a building where people can sit and relax • For sale: large three-bedroom house with adjoining *terrace* and garden.

3 [*count*] *Brit* : a row of houses that are joined together : a group of row houses

4 the terraces *Brit* : a section of a stadium with wide steps where people stand to watch soccer matches

— **ter-raced** /'terəst/ *adj* • a *terraced* hillside • *terraced* gardens — **ter-rac-ing** /'terəsɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] • hillside *terracing*

terraced house *noun, pl ~ houses* [*count*] *Brit* : ROW HOUSE

ter-ra-cot-ta /,terə'kɒ:tə/ *noun, pl -tas*

1 a [*noncount*] : a reddish clay that is used for pottery and tiles • planters/jars made of *terra-cotta* **b** [*count*] : things (such as tiles, pottery, or statues) that are made from *terra-cotta* — often used before another noun • *terra-cotta* jars from ancient Greece • *terra-cotta* tiles

2 [*noncount*] : a brownish-orange color — see color picture on page C3

ter-ra fir-ma /,terə'fɜːmə/ *noun* [*noncount*] : dry and solid ground as compared to air or water • We were glad to be back on *terra firma* [=back on the ground] after our bumpy flight.

ter-rain /tə'reɪn/ *noun, pl -rains* : land of a particular kind [*noncount*] We had to drive over some rough *terrain*. [*count*] We hiked through a variety of *terrains*. — see also ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE

ter-ra in-cog-ni-ta /'terə,ɪn,kə:g'ni:tə/ *noun, pl ter-rae in-cog-ni-tae* /'ter,ai,ɪn,kə:g'ni:taɪ/ [*count*] *formal* : a place that has not been discovered or that is unknown • the *terra incognita* beyond those mountains — often used figuratively • This subject is *terra incognita* for/to me. [=I don't know anything about this subject]

ter-ra-pin /'terəpən/ *noun, pl -pins* [*count*] : a kind of small turtle that lives in water

ter-rar-i-um /tə'rerɪjəm/ *noun, pl -ums* [*count*] : a glass or plastic box that is used for growing plants or keeping small animals indoors

ter-res-tri-al /tə'restrijəl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 : relating to or occurring on the earth • *terrestrial* life forms

2 technical : living or growing on land instead of in water or air • The toad has *terrestrial* habits, spending most of its time on shore. • *terrestrial* birds

3 : sending a broadcast signal from the Earth • *terrestrial* wireless networks • a *terrestrial* radio station

ter-ri-ble /'terəbəl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 : very shocking and upsetting • a *terrible* [=horrible] disaster/crime • Traffic was held up by a *terrible* accident. • We just got some *terrible* [=dreadful] news.

2 : very bad or unpleasant • *terrible* music/food • The garbage smells really *terrible*. [=awful] • I have a *terrible* cold. • What a *terrible* [=horrible] thing to say! • a *terrible* mistake • The service at that restaurant is *terrible*. • I'm a *terrible* chess player. = I'm *terrible* at chess. [=I play chess very badly] • I woke up this morning feeling *terrible*. [=very sick] • She feels *terrible* [=very sorry] that she hurt your feelings.

— see also ENFANT TERRIBLE

ter-ri-bly /'terəbli/ *adv* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 : very or extremely • The movie made me feel *terribly* sad. • It is *terribly* important that the package be delivered tomorrow. • They don't know each other *terribly* well. • Something has gone *terribly* wrong. • I miss you *terribly*. [=very much]

2 : in a very bad or unpleasant way • I like tennis, but I play *terribly*. [=very badly]

ter-ri-er /'terɪjə/ *noun, pl -ers* [*count*] : a type of small dog originally used for hunting

ter-rif-ic /tə'rɪfɪk/ *adj*

1 informal : extremely good : EXCELLENT • He makes *terrific* chili. • She's given me some *terrific* ideas. • Your test scores were *terrific*. • They did a *terrific* job painting the house. • I had a *terrific* time. • I've recovered completely. In fact, I feel *terrific*.

2 : causing a feeling of surprise or wonder • an athlete with *terrific* [=astounding, amazing] speed • We were hit by a *terrific* snowstorm last week.

— **ter-rif-i-cal-ly** /tə'rɪfɪkli/ *adv* • The news is *terrifically* exciting. • The band is *terrifically* popular in Japan.

terrified *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : extremely afraid • *terrified* onlookers • I was/felt *terrified* and just wanted to go home. • The thought of losing his job has him *terrified*. • She was *terrified* that she was going to die alone. = She was *terrified* of dying alone.

ter-ri-fy /'terə,faɪ/ *verb* -fies; -fied; -fy-ing [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone) to be extremely afraid : to frighten (someone) very much • Big dogs *terrify* me. • The thought of dying alone *terrifies* her.

terrifying *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : causing great fear • The thought of dying alone was *terrifying*. • a *terrifying* ordeal

— **ter-ri-fy-ing-ly** *adv* • We came *terrifyingly* close to dying on that mountain.

ter-rine /tə'ri:n/ *noun, pl -rines* [*count, noncount*] : liver or meat that has been chopped into very small pieces and cooked in a special dish

ter-ri-to-ri-al /,terə'tɔːrɪəl/ *adj*

1 : of or relating to land or water that is owned or controlled by a government • *territorial* boundaries • *territorial* claims by settlers • a *territorial* government • The two countries are in a *territorial dispute*. [=a disagreement about which one controls a particular territory]

2 [*more ~; most ~*] — used to describe animals or people that try to keep others away from an area that they use or

control • The neighbor's dog is extremely *territorial* and barks if you come close to the yard. • the human tendency to be *territorial*

— **ter-ri-to-ri-al-ly** *adv* • The region was *territorially* important to the empire.

Territorial Army *noun*

the Territorial Army : a part of the military forces of Britain that is made up of people who are not professional soldiers but are given military training for a period of time each year — abbr. *TA*

ter-ri-to-ri-al-i-ty /ˌtɛrəˈtɔːriˈæləti/ *noun* [noncount] : the behavior of animals or people that try to keep others away from an area that they use or control • a scientific study of *territoriality* in bears/mice

territorial waters *noun* [plural] : the part of the ocean near a country's coast that is legally controlled by that country

ter-ri-to-ry /ˌtɛrəˈtɔːri, Brit ˈtɛrətri/ *noun*, *pl* -ries

1 a : an area of land that belongs to or is controlled by a government [noncount] Those mountains are in Mexican *territory*. • We're entering **enemy territory**. [=an area of land that belongs to or is controlled by our enemy] [count] disputed *territories* **b** [count] : one of the parts of the United States that is not a state • Guam is a U.S. *territory*. **c** [count] : any one of the large parts that some countries are divided into • Canada's Yukon *Territory*

2 : an area that an animal or group of animals uses and defends [count] The birds are busy establishing *territories* and building nests. [noncount] Male cats spray to mark *territory*.

3 [noncount] : an area of land or water • We've covered a lot of *territory* today. [=we have traveled a long distance] • The goal of the expedition is to map **unexplored/uncharted territory**. — sometimes used figuratively • an area of study that was **unexplored/uncharted territory** at the time • Let's get the meeting started. We have a lot of *territory* to cover today. [=a lot to talk about, decide, etc.] • Dealing with our cars and the mechanic is her *territory*. [=something she is in charge of] • As the conversation turned to politics, I knew we were heading into **dangerous territory**.

4 [count] : an area that someone is responsible for when doing a job • a salesman whose *territory* includes New England and upstate New York

5 [count] *sports* : the area on a playing field (such as a football field) that is defended by a particular team • They started deep in their own *territory* and went all the way down the field to score a touchdown.

come/go with the territory : to be a natural part of a particular situation, position, or area of work • Of course players get injured sometimes. It *comes with the territory*.

ter-ror /ˈtɛrə/ *noun*

1 : a very strong feeling of fear [noncount] The sound of guns being fired fills me with *terror*. • There was a look of (sheer) *terror* on her face. • Many civilians fled **in terror**. • They lived **in terror** of being discovered. = They lived **in terror** that they would be discovered. • Until recently, the mere mention of the disease **struck terror in (the hearts of)** people. [singular] someone with a *terror* of water [=someone who is extremely afraid of being in water] • a *terror* that is still fresh in her memory

2 : something that causes very strong feelings of fear : something that is terrifying [count] the *terrors* of war • the *terrors* of life in the jungle [noncount] tales of *terror*

3 [noncount] : violence that is committed by a person, group, or government in order to frighten people and achieve a political goal • a regime that rules by *terror* • bombings and other acts of *terror* • These people have been living with *terror* and the threat of *terror* for many years. • a war on *terror* [=terrorism] • a campaign of *terror* against ethnic minority groups — see also REIGN OF TERROR

4 [count] *informal* : a child who behaves very badly • My nephew is a little *terror*. [=brat] • Their kids are **holy terrors**. [=their kids behave very badly]

hold no terror or hold no terrors ✧ If something *holds no terror/terrors* for you, you are not afraid of it. • Death *holds no terror* for them. • She's done it enough times that it *holds no terrors* now.

ter-ror-ism /ˈtɛrəˌɪzəm/ *noun* [noncount] : the use of violent acts to frighten the people in an area as a way of trying to achieve a political goal • They have been arrested for acts of *terrorism*. • international *terrorism* • the fight/struggle/war against *terrorism* • **state terrorism** [=terrorism by a government] — see also COUNTERTERRORISM

ter-ror-ist /ˈtɛrərist/ *noun*, *pl* -ists [count] : a person who uses or supports the use of terrorism • A number of people were deported for being suspected *terrorists*.

— **terrorist** *adj*, always used before a noun • *terrorist* activities/attacks/bombings/threats • a *terrorist* organization/group/network

ter-ror-ize also *Brit ter-ror-ise* /ˈtɛrəˌaɪz/ *verb* -iz-es; -ized; -iz-ing [+ *obj*]

1 : to cause (someone) to be extremely afraid • As a child she *terrorized* her younger siblings. • She was *terrorized* by nightmares. • neighborhoods *terrorized* by gangs

2 : to force (someone) to do something by using threats or violence • Employees were *terrorized* into accepting abysmal working conditions.

ter-ry cloth /ˈtɛri-/ *noun* [noncount] : a type of soft, thick cloth with many tiny loops on its surface that is often used to make towels • a *terry cloth* robe/towel — called also *terry*, (*Brit*) *towelling*

terse /ˈtɜːs/ *adj* : brief and direct in a way that may seem rude or unfriendly • a *terse* statement/sentence/summary • She gave me a few *terse* instructions and promptly left the room. **synonyms** see CONCISE

— **terse-ly** *adv* • a *tersely* worded reply — **terse-ness** *noun* [noncount]

ter-ti-ary /ˈtɜːʃiəri, Brit ˈtɜːfəri/ *adj*, *formal* : third in order, importance, or value • Headaches often occur during the *tertiary* stage of the illness. • our *tertiary* goals • (*chiefly Brit*) **tertiary education** [=education at the college or university level] — compare PRIMARY, SECONDARY

TESL /ˈtɛsəl/ *abbr*, *chiefly US* teaching English as a second language

TESOL /ˈtiːsəl/ *abbr* **1** US Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages **2** teaching English to speakers of other languages

test /ˈtɛst/ *noun*, *pl* tests [count]

1 : a set of questions or problems that are designed to measure a person's knowledge, skills, or abilities • She is studying for her math/spelling/history *test*. • I passed/failed/flunked my biology *test*. • The teacher sat at his desk grading *tests*. • a driver's/driving *test* [=a test that is used to see if someone is able to safely drive a car] • an IQ *test* • *test* questions • The *test* will be on [=the questions on the test will be about] the first three chapters of the book. • We **took/had a test** on European capitals. = (*Brit*) We **did a test** on European capitals. • The college relies on **test scores** in its admissions process. — see also INTELLIGENCE TEST, RORSCHACH TEST, SCREEN TEST

2 a : a careful study of a part of the body or of a substance taken from the body • The *test* showed/revealed a problem with your liver function. • a vision/hearing *test* [=a test that shows how well you see/hear] • a urine *test* [=a test that examines a person's urine for evidence of disease or illegal drugs] • allergy *tests* [=tests that show what you are allergic to] • All applicants must pass a **drug test**. [=a test that examines a person's blood or urine for evidence of illegal drugs] • The doctor will call you with the **test results**. • They went to the drug store to buy a **pregnancy test**. [=a device that reacts to a woman's urine in a way that shows whether or not she is pregnant] • a **DNA test** [=a test that examines DNA and that is used to identify someone or to show that people are relatives] — see also BLOOD TEST, BREATH TEST, STRESS TEST **b** : a careful study of a small amount of water, soil, air, etc., in order to see if its quality is good, to find out if it contains a dangerous substance, etc. • The *test* indicated high levels of lead in the soil. • routine water *tests*

3 : a planned and usually controlled act or series of acts that is done to learn something, to see if something works properly, etc. • lab/laboratory *tests* • underground nuclear *tests* • a *test* of a new vaccine • **Taste tests** revealed that people prefer this brand of cola over that one. — often used before another noun • As participants in the sleep study, **test subjects** will be kept awake for 18 hours. • The effects of the drug were clear when the **test group** was compared with the control group. — see also ROAD TEST

4 : something (such as a difficult situation or task) that shows how strong or skilled someone or something is • a *test* of will/strength/character • The real/true *test* of your ability as a skier is whether you can ski well on very hard snow. — see also ACID TEST, LITMUS TEST

5 Brit, sports : TEST MATCH

put (someone or something) to the test : to cause (someone or something) to be in a situation that shows how strong, good, etc., that person or thing really is • The team

has been playing well so far, but tomorrow's game will really *put them to the test*. [=will really test them] • A trip through the desert will *put the truck to the test*. • We decided to *put the idea/theory to the test* [=to test the theory] with a little experiment.

stand the test of time : to continue to be important, respected, etc., for a long period of time • Great art/literature/music can *stand the test of time*.

test of (your) character see CHARACTER

— see also HIGH-TEST, MEANS TEST

²test verb tests; test-ed; test-ing

1 [+ obj] : to use a set of questions or problems to measure someone's skills, knowledge, or abilities • Weekly quizzes will *test* your understanding of the material. • The students will all be *tested* again at the end of the school year. — often + *on* • The exam will *test* you *on* your understanding of basic grammar rules.

2 : to examine a part of the body or a substance taken from the body [+ obj] The school nurse will be *testing* students' hearing next week. — often + *for* • They *tested* the campers *for* Lyme disease. • Blood samples from the animals are being *tested* *for* the presence of the virus. • Athletes competing in the tournament will be *tested* *for* illegal drugs. [no obj] The athletes knew that tournament officials would be *testing* *for* (the presence of) illegal drugs. • She *tested* *positive/negative* *for* AIDS.

3 : to examine a small amount of water, soil, air, etc., in order to see if its quality is good, if it contains a dangerous substance, etc. [+ obj] The water gets *tested* regularly. — often + *for* • They will *test* the soil *for* traces of lead. [no obj] — + *for* • They will *test* *for* the presence of lead in the soil.

4 [+ obj] : to use (something) in a planned and usually controlled way in order to see if it works properly • Only one of the vehicles they *tested* performed well in wet conditions. • Researchers are currently *testing* (the safety of) the vaccine. • The vaccine has not been *tested* on humans yet. • We designed a series of experiments to *test* our hypothesis. — see also FIELD-TEST

5 [+ obj] : to show how strong, good, etc., someone or something is in a difficult situation • The stress is *testing* the strength of our relationship. • The scandal is *testing* the country's faith in its leadership. • Life's ordeals *test* us. • You're *testing* my patience. [=you are starting to make me annoyed or upset] — see also TIME-TESTED

test the waters also test the water : to do something to find out if people like or approve a possible plan, product, etc., so that you can make a decision about it • The company is *testing the waters* with a new online version of the product. • She's *testing the waters* for a presidential bid.

— **test-able** /'testəbəl/ *adj* • a *testable* hypothesis

tes·ta·ment /'testəmənt/ *noun*, *pl* -ments

1 : proof or evidence that something exists or is true [count] The success of the album, which is only available online, is a *testament* to the power/strength of the Internet. [noncount] The event is *testament* to [=evidence of] what a small group of determined people can do.

2 [count] *law* : the legal instructions in which you say who should receive your property, possessions, etc., after you die : WILL • a person's *last will and testament*

— see also NEW TESTAMENT, OLD TESTAMENT

— **tes·ta·men·ta·ry** /,testə'mentəri/ *adj*, *law*

test ban *noun*, *pl* ~ **bans** [count] : an official agreement between countries with nuclear weapons to not test those weapons • a nuclear *test ban* treaty

test case *noun*, *pl* ~ **cases** [count] *law* : a legal case that will be used as an example when other similar cases are decided in the future

test drive *noun*, *pl* ~ **drives** [count] : an occurrence in which you drive a car that you do not own to see if you like it and would like to buy it • Would you like to take the car for a *test drive*?

— **test-drive** *verb* -drives; -drove; -driv-en; -driv-ing [+ obj] • She *test-drove* four or five different cars before deciding on one.

test·er /'testə/ *noun*, *pl* -ers [count]

1 : a person or device that tests something • She works as a video game *tester*.

2 : a container of perfume, lotion, etc., in a store that customers can use to try the product

testes *plural* of TESTIS

tes·ti·cle /'testikəl/ *noun*, *pl* -ti·cles [count] : one of two small organs that are located in a sack of skin (called the

scrotum) in men and male animals and that produce sperm and male hormones

— **tes·tic·u·lar** /tɛ'stikjələ/ *adj*, *always used before a noun* • *testicular* cancer

tes·ti·fy /'testə,fai/ *verb* -fies; -fied; -fy·ing

1 a : to talk and answer questions about something especially in a court of law while formally promising that what you are saying is true [no obj] She refused to *testify* about who had given her the information. • Three witnesses were called/summoned to *testify* at (the) trial. • She *testified* before Congress today. • He agreed to *testify* *against* his drug dealer. • They will *testify* *for* the defense/prosecution. [=they will testify because the defense/prosecution has asked them to] [+ obj] He *testified* that he'd seen two people leave the building on the night of the murder. **b** : to talk about or say (something) in an honest and confident way [+ obj] I can (personally) *testify* that the food at that diner is excellent. [no obj] — + *to* • Many of her former employees came forward to *testify* *to* her generosity. [=to say that she is a generous person]

2 : to show that something is true or real : to give proof of something [no obj] — + *to* • These statistics *testify* *to* the fact that the program is working. [=show that the program is working] • The fact that doctors were able to catch the disease before it had spread *testifies* *to* the importance of medical screenings. [+ obj] These statistics *testify* that the program is working.

3 [no obj] *US* : to talk to a group of people about your belief in God especially as part of a church service • Several people *testified* during the revival meeting.

¹tes·ti·mo·ni·al /,testə'mouniəl/ *noun*, *pl* -als [count]

1 a : a written or spoken statement in which you say that you used a product or service and liked it ♦ Testimonials are often used to sell the products or services they are about. • The Web site is full of *testimonials* from satisfied customers. **b** : a written or spoken statement that praises someone's work, skill, character, etc. • He received a glowing *testimonial* from his former employer.

2 : an event at which someone is honored • They have planned a *testimonial* [=tribute] in her honor. — often used before another noun • She is being honored at a *testimonial* dinner next week.

3 : TESTAMENT 1 — + *to* • The book's popularity is a *testimonial* to its timeliness.

²testimonial *adj* : relating to testimony and especially to legal testimony • *testimonial* evidence

tes·ti·mo·ny /'testə,mouni/ *noun*, *pl* -nies

1 : something that someone says especially in a court of law while formally promising to tell the truth [noncount] The jury heard 10 days of *testimony*. [count] There were contradictions in her *testimony*. • the personal/oral/written/eyewitness *testimonies* of survivors of the war

2 : proof or evidence that something exists or is true : TESTAMENT — + *to* [noncount] It is *testimony* to her courage and persistence that she worked for so long in the face of such adversity. [count] The popularity of diet fads is a *testimony* to the fact that people want a quick fix for their health and weight problems.

test-ing /'testɪŋ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : difficult to deal with • It's been a *testing* [=trying] time for all of us.

testing ground *noun*, *pl* ~ grounds [count]

1 : a place where machines, vehicles, etc., are tested to see if they are working correctly • a *testing ground* for weapons

2 : a place or situation in which new ideas, methods, etc., can be tried • Her class served as a *testing ground* [=proving ground] for new teaching methods.

tes·tis /'testəs/ *noun*, *pl* tes·tes /'tɛ,sti:z/ [count] *technical* : TESTICLE

test match *noun*, *pl* ~ **matches** [count] *chiefly Brit, sports* : a game or series of games of cricket or rugby played by teams from different countries

tes·tos·ter·one /tɛ'stə:stə,roun/ *noun* [noncount]

1 *medical* : a substance (called a hormone) that occurs naturally in men and male animals ♦ Testosterone causes the development of the male reproductive system and characteristics of the adult male body.

2 *informal + often disapproving* : qualities (such as noticeable strength and aggressiveness) that agree with traditional ideas about what men are like • a *testosterone*-fueled television show

test pilot *noun*, *pl* ~ **-lots** [count] : a pilot who flies new aircraft in order to see how well they work

test run *noun*, *pl* ~ **runs** [count] : an occurrence in which a

product or procedure is tried in order to see if it works correctly : TRIAL RUN • They did a *test run* of the new software.

test tube *noun, pl ~ tubes* [count] : a glass container that is shaped like a tube which is closed at one end and that is used especially in science experiments

test-tube baby *noun, pl ~ -bies* [count] : a child produced from an egg that was fertilized outside of a woman's body and then put back into the woman's body to finish developing

tes·ty /'tɛsti/ *adj* **tes·ti·er; -est** : becoming angry or annoyed easily • She grew a little *testy* [=irritable, (chiefly Brit) *tetchy*] as the afternoon wore on.

— **tes·ti·ly** /'tɛstəli/ *adv* • He replied *testily* that, no, he did not want any help. — **tes·ti·ness** /'tɛstinəs/ *noun* [noncount]

tet·a·nus /'tɛtnəs/ *noun* [noncount] *medical* : a dangerous disease that is caused by bacteria that usually enter the body through a cut or wound ♦ Tetanus causes muscles and especially muscles in the jaw to become stiff. — called also (*informal*) *lockjaw*

tetchy /'tɛtʃi/ *adj* **tetch·i·er; -est** *chiefly Brit* : becoming angry or annoyed easily • *tetchy* [=irritable] children • She was in a *tetchy* [=testy] mood.

— **tetch·i·ly** /'tɛtʃəli/ *adv* — **tetch·i·ness** /'tɛtʃinəs/ *noun* [noncount]

tête-à-tête /,tɛtə'tɛt/ *noun, pl tête-à-têtes* [count] : a private conversation between two people • They had a quiet *tête-à-tête* over dinner last night. ♦ *Tête-à-tête* in French literally means "head-to-head."

teth·er /'tɛðə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count] : a rope or chain that is used to tie an animal to a post, wall, etc., so that it will stay in a particular area

the end of your tether see ¹END

tether *verb -ers; -ered; -er·ing* [+ *obj*] : to use a rope or chain to tie (an animal) to something in order to keep it in a particular area • They *tethered* the horses in the shade. • The dog was *tethered* to the fence. — often used figuratively • She can't stand being *tethered* to her desk all day. [=having to stay at her desk all day]

Teu·ton·ic /tu'tɔ:nɪk, Brit tju'tɒnɪk/ *adj*

1 : thought to be typical of German people • a *Teutonic* commitment to hard work

2 **a** : relating to Germany, Germans, or the German language • the *Teutonic* wilderness • a *Teutonic* [=Germanic] scholar/word **b** : relating to an ancient people who lived in northern Europe • *Teutonic* legends

Tex. *abbr* Texas

Tex-Mex /'tɛks'mɛks/ *adj, always used before a noun* : relating to Mexican-American culture, music, or food of the kind that exists especially in southern Texas • a *Tex-Mex* restaurant

text /'tɛkst/ *noun, pl texts*

1 [noncount] : the original words of a piece of writing or a speech • A good critic will refer back to the *text* often. • You can find the full *text* of his speech on his Web site. • the *text* of the Constitution

2 [noncount] : the words that make up the main part of a book, magazine, newspaper, Web site, etc. • The book is mostly photographs—it has very little *text*. • At this point the Web site is only *text*. Graphics will be added later.

3 [count] **a** : a book or other piece of writing; especially : one that is studied • an ancient religious *text* • Students will read and discuss various *literary texts*. • (Brit) Shakespearean plays are *set texts* [=pieces of writing that must be studied in schools] in many secondary schools. **b** *US* : TEXTBOOK • a psychology *text*

4 **a** [noncount] : data handled by a computer, cell phone, etc., that is mostly in the form of words • I typed 32 pages of *text*. • a *text* file **b** [count] : TEXT MESSAGE • He sends hundreds of *texts* a month.

5 [count] : a short section of the Bible that is read aloud especially during a religious service

text *verb* **texts; text·ed; text·ing** : to send someone a text message [+ *obj*] I *texted* her a little while ago. • I *texted* a message to her. • She just *texted* me back. [no *obj*] She just *texted* back.

— **texting** *noun* [noncount] • *Texting* [=text messaging] is a major preoccupation for many teens.

text·book /'tɛkst,bʊk/ *noun, pl -books* [count] : a book about a particular subject that is used in the study of that subject especially in a school • an algebra *textbook*

textbook *adj, always used before a noun* : very typical • The

scandal is a *textbook* [=classic, perfect] case/example of corporate greed.

tex·tile /'tɛk,stajəl, 'tɛkstl/ *noun, pl -tiles*

1 [count] : FABRIC, CLOTH; especially : a fabric that is woven or knit • They import fine silk *textiles* from China. • a factory where *textiles* are made = a *textile* factory

2 *textiles* [noncount] : the businesses that make textiles • She made her fortune in *textiles*. [=the textile industry]

text message *noun, pl ~ -sag·es* [count] : a short message that is sent electronically to a cell phone or other device • She sent me a *text message* saying that she'll be late. — called also *text*

— **text messaging** *noun* [noncount] • I use my cell phone for *text messaging*. [=for sending text messages]

tex·tu·al /'tɛkstʃəwəl/ *adj* : relating to or based on a piece of writing (such as a book or magazine) • *textual* analysis/criticism • *textual* evidence [=evidence expressed in writing]

tex·ture /'tɛkstʃə/ *noun, pl -tures*

1 : the way that something feels when you touch it [count] wood with a rough *texture* • the smooth *texture* of silk [noncount] The plant's leaves are almost leathery in *texture*. • Mixing sand into the paint will add *texture*. [=will give the paint a rough texture when it dries]

2 : the way that a food or drink feels in your mouth [count] a crunchy/rich/silky *texture* • foods with very different *textures* [noncount] The custard should be smooth and creamy in *texture*. • Next I added some flour to the sauce for *texture*. [=to give it the right texture]

3 : the various parts of a song, poem, movie, etc., and the way they fit together [count] a song with layered *textures* • I liked the raw, gritty *texture* of the film. [noncount] The movies are similar in *texture*.

— **tex·tur·al** /'tɛkstʃərəl/ *adj* • *textural* contrast

tex·tured /'tɛkstʃəd/ *adj* : having a surface that was designed so that it is not smooth • *textured* fabrics • The invitations were printed on handmade *textured* paper.

TGIF *abbr, US* thank God/goodness it's Friday

Th. *abbr* Thursday

-th or -eth *adj suffix* — used in writing after numbers other than 1, 2, and 3 • 100th = hundredth • Fortieth Street = 40th Street • a 5th-grade teacher • the eighth of April

Thai /'tai/ *noun, pl Thai or Thais*

1 [count] **a** : a person born, raised, or living in Thailand **b** : a person whose family is from Thailand

2 [noncount] : the language of Thailand

— **Thai** *adj* • *Thai* food/curry • *Thai* people

than /'ðæn, ðən/ *conj*

1 — used to introduce the second or last of two or more things or people that are being compared; used with the comparative form of an adjective or adverb • Ten is less *than* 20. • She is younger *than* I am. = (somewhat formal) She is younger *than* I. • He can run more quickly *than* his father (can). • Both recipes use more salt *than* mine (does). • The situation will improve sooner *than* you think (it will). • The meeting will end no later *than* noon. [=it will end at noon or some time before noon] • Losing weight is easier said *than* done. [=is difficult to do] • I would rather go out to dinner *than* cook at home tonight. • Your hair looks better (when it's) brown *than* (when it's) blond. • She would rather/sooner work four jobs *than* move out of Manhattan to live somewhere cheaper. — see also *other than* at ¹OTHER, *rather than* at RATHER

2 — used to say that something happens immediately after something else • *Hardly/scarcely* had the sun come up *than* dark clouds began to roll in. • *No sooner* had I spoken *than* he appeared. [=he appeared immediately after I spoke]

than *prep* : when compared to — used with pronouns in the objective case (*me, her, him, them,* and *us*) in the same way that the conjunction *than* is used with pronouns in the subjective case (*I, she, he, they,* and *we*) • She is younger *than me*. [=she is younger than I (am)] • I'm taller *than him*. [=I'm taller than he (is)]

usage Some people consider the use of *than* as a preposition to be incorrect. It is very common, however, especially in the phrase *than me*.

none other than see ¹NONE

thank /'θæŋk/ *verb* **thanks; thanked; thank·ing** [+ *obj*] : to tell (someone) that you are grateful for something that he or she has done or given • I *thanked* her for (giving me) the present. • I want to *thank* everyone who helped today. • There's no need to *thank me*. Anyone would have done the

same. • He *thanked* his grandmother with a big hug. [=he thanked her by hugging her]

have (someone or something) to thank for (something)

— used to say that someone or something is responsible for something • The television show *has* young audiences *to thank* for its success. [=the show is successful because it is popular with young audiences] • The city *has* the mayor *to thank* [=to blame] for its current fiscal problems.

thank God/goodness/heaven(s)/the Lord — used to express happiness or relief that something did or did not happen • *Thank God* you got here when you did. • *Thank goodness* it turned out to be a false alarm.

thank you **1** — used to thank someone • “Here’s your change.” “*Thank you.*” “You’re welcome.” • *Thank you* from the bottom of my heart. = (more formally) *I thank you* from the bottom of my heart. — often + *for* • *Thank you* (very much) *for* helping me. = *Thank you* (very much) *for* your help. **2** — used to politely accept or refuse an offer • “Can I carry that for you?” “*Thank you* (very much).” • “Would you like another one?” “*Yes, thank you*” [=yes, please] • “Can I carry that for you?” “*No, thank you* I’ll do it myself.” **3** — used to tell someone in a somewhat annoyed way that you do not want help or advice • I’m perfectly capable of doing it by myself, *thank you* (very much).

thank·ful /ˈθæŋkfəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : glad that something has happened or not happened, that something or someone exists, etc. • I’m *thankful* (that) we were not on the boat when the storm hit. • Everyone was *thankful* to hear the good news. — often + *for* • We have so much to be *thankful for*. • I’m very *thankful* [=grateful] *for* all the help they’ve given me. • I’m so *thankful for* my family.

2 : of, relating to, or expressing thanks • a *thankful* feeling • *thankful* words

— **thank·ful·ness** *noun* [noncount] • a feeling of *thankfulness*

thank·ful·ly /ˈθæŋkfəli/ *adv*

1 : in a way that makes you feel thankful • I knew I could call her if there was an emergency but *thankfully* [=fortunately] it wasn’t necessary. • *Thankfully*, no one was hurt. [=I am glad/thankful that no one was hurt] • The instructions were *thankfully* simple.

2 *old-fashioned* : with a feeling of thanks • I always receive your calls *thankfully*.

thank·less /ˈθæŋkləs/ *adj*

1 : difficult and not valued by other people • a *thankless* task/job

2 : not showing or feeling thanks • *thankless* people

thanks /ˈθæŋks/ *noun* [plural]

1 : a good feeling that you have towards someone who has helped you, given something to you, etc. • I brought you a gift as a way of showing my *thanks* for all you’ve done. • I want express my *thanks* [=gratitude] (to you) for your kindness and generosity.

2 : something done or said to express thanks • A simple bouquet of flowers can be a nice way to say *thanks*. • We should *give thanks* (to God) for all the good things in our lives.

3 — used as a less formal way to say “thank you” • “Here’s your change.” “*Thanks.*” “You’re welcome.” • *Thanks!* I appreciate it. • “How’s your mother doing?” “She’s doing well, *thanks.*” [=thank you for asking] — often + *for* • *Thanks for* coming. • *Thanks so much for* your kind letter. = Many *thanks for* the kind letter.

4 — used like “thank you” as a polite way of accepting or refusing an offer • “Do you want another one?” “*Thanks.*” [=yes, please] • “Do you want another one?” “*Yes, thanks.*” [=yes, please] • “Do you want another one?” “*No, thanks.*” • “Can I help you find something?” “*No thanks,* I’m just looking.” • “Would you like a ride?” “*Thanks, but no thanks.* I’ll walk.”

no thanks to : without the help of (someone or something) : despite (someone or something) • The vote passed, *no thanks to* the mayor. [=the vote passed even though the mayor did not help or want it to pass]

owe a debt of thanks to see DEBT

thanks a bunch/lot/million *informal* : thank you very much • Wow, this is great! *Thanks a million!* — often used in an ironic way to say that you are not pleased that someone has done or said something • “I’m boring? *Thanks a lot!*” • *Thanks a million* for leaving the door open. There are flies everywhere now.

thanks to : with the help of (someone or something) : because of (someone or something) • I’m a lot happier these

days *thanks to* my new girlfriend. • *Thanks to* a new technique, patients typically recover from the surgery in only a few days. — often used in an ironic way • *Thanks to* you we have to do the whole thing over again.

thanks·giv·ing /θæŋksˈgɪvɪŋ/ *noun* [noncount]

1 *Thanksgiving* : the fourth Thursday in November in the U.S. or the second Monday in October in Canada celebrated as a legal holiday for people to be thankful for what they have • People traditionally eat a large meal with family or friends on Thanksgiving. • Are you going home for *Thanksgiving*? • *Thanksgiving* dinner — called also *Thanksgiving Day* **2** *formal* : a prayer that expresses thanks to God • They sang a hymn of *thanksgiving*.

thank·you /ˈθæŋk,ju:/ *noun*, *pl* -**yous** [count] : something that you give or do to show thanks : a polite expression of thanks — usually singular • They threw him a big party as a *thank-you* for his work at the community center. • Have you sent out the *thank-yous* [=notes/cards/letters thanking people for their gifts, help, etc.] yet? — often used before another noun • a *thank-you note/letter/gift*

that /ðæt, ðət/ *pronoun*, *pl* **those** /ˈðoʊz/

1 **a** — used to indicate which person, thing, fact, or idea is being shown, pointed to, or mentioned • *That* is my book. • *Those* are my shoes. • *That* is where I went to school. • “What kind of tree is *that*?” “*That* is a maple.” • Who was *that*? • Is *that* your boyfriend (standing) over there? • *Those* are my sisters. • Well, look at *that*. The baby can crawl now. • “It will be difficult.” “*That’s* true.” • You are the first person in our family to graduate from college, and *that* makes me proud. • “Why did you quit?” “Because I felt like it. *That’s* why.” • “The meeting is canceled.” “Who told you *that*?” • “It was the worst movie I’ve ever seen.” “Come on—it couldn’t have been as bad as *that*.” • It may cost as much as \$30, but no more than *that*. **usage** see ¹THIS **b** — used to refer to a time, action, or event that was just mentioned • You quit? Why did you do *that*? • I brushed my teeth, and after *that* I went to bed. • He won’t be there until six o’clock, but I expect to arrive before *that*. [=before then; before six o’clock] • “I hate you!” she screamed. And *with that* [=after saying that] she stormed out of the room. **c** — used to refer to the one that is farther away or less familiar • This is my hat and *that* is yours. • *Those* are nice, but I like these better. • Do you want this one or *that* (one)? • Don’t do it like *that*. Do it like this.

2 *somewhat formal* **a** : the kind or thing described or identified • The aluminum parts are much lighter than *those* made from steel. [=much lighter than the parts made from steel] — often + *of* • We know of no other planet with an atmosphere like *that of* the Earth. [=an atmosphere like the Earth’s atmosphere] **b** : the kind or thing stated previously — usually singular • “There is the matter of your raise (to discuss).” “Yes, there is *that*.” — sometimes used to stress the truth of a statement • “Is she capable?” “She is *that*.” [=more commonly] *she certainly is*] • “He told us more than we needed to know, but at least he answered our question.” “Oh, yes. *That* he did.” [=he certainly did do that] — see also *that’s* ... *for you* at ¹FOR

3 *those* *somewhat formal* : a particular group of people • Let’s take a vote. All *those* in favor, say “aye.” • There are *those who* think she should resign.

4 *formal + literary* : the one : the thing : the kind — used to introduce a clause • What is *that* you say? [=what did you say?]

all that **1** *informal* **a** : everything of the kind stated or suggested • She had money, fame, and *all that* — see also FOR ALL THAT (below) **b** : more things of the same kind • The store sells computers, cell phones, and *all that* [=and other such things] **2** : the stated or suggested degree, amount, etc. — usually used in negative statements • The movie couldn’t have been as bad as *all that*. [=the movie must have been better than you say it was] — see also *all that* at ²ALL

and that **1** *somewhat formal* — used to refer to an idea just mentioned • He was helpful, and *that* to an unusual degree. [=he was unusually helpful] **2** *chiefly Brit, informal* : and more things of the same kind • She spends her money drinking, gambling, and *that*. [=and so forth]

at that **1** — used when giving more information about something or someone that was just mentioned • It’s a fancy new car, and a sports car *at that*. — usually used in the phrase and a bad/good (etc.) one at that • The band did a remake of the song, and a bad one at that. • She is a lawyer, and a very talented one at that. **2** : without adding or do-

ing anything more • Let's just say that I got in a little trouble with the police, and *leave it at that*. = Let's *let it go at that*. [=I do not want to say anything more about it] • They offered him the salary that he asked for, but he couldn't *leave it at that*. [=he asked them for something else/more]

for all that : in spite of something just mentioned • She sacrificed many nights to study for the exam, but *for all that* she still failed.

that does it see ¹DO

that is or that is to say **1** — used when giving more accurate or specific information about someone or something that was just mentioned • We—*that is to say* my wife and I—will be attending the wedding. **2** — used when giving information that affects something previously mentioned • We plan on going to the concert—*that is*, if tickets are still available.

that is all or that's all **1** — used to say that something is finished or completed • “Do you need anything else?” “No, thanks, *that's all*.” • They're (just) different, *that's all*. [=I am not saying anything more than that they are different] **2** — used to say that something is all that is needed or wanted • I went there to visit friends and *that's all*. [=that is all I wanted to do there]

that is that or that's that — used to say that a decision or situation cannot be changed • I won't sell it for less than 50 dollars and *that is that*. • I'm not going and *that's that*.

that's a good boy/girl/dog (etc.) — used to praise a child or animal for obeying you • Please pick up your toys. *That's a good girl*. • Sit. *That's a good dog*.

that should/will do (it) see ¹DO

that's it see ¹IT

that's life — used to say that something unpleasant or difficult is a normal part of life • Sometimes you try your hardest and still don't succeed. *That's life*.

— compare ⁴THAT

²that *conj*

1 — used to introduce a clause that is the subject or object of a verb • *That* he said no is not surprising. • I never said *that* I was afraid. • Mom said *that* we could go to the park. • The reason for his absence is *that* he is ill.

2 — used to introduce a clause that completes or explains the meaning of a previous noun or adjective or of the pronoun *it* • There is a chance *that* it might rain. • I am certain *that* it is true. • It's not surprising *that* he said no. • It is unlikely *that* she'll be in. • He made it clear *that* he needed our help. • It's not *that* they said no—that's not why I'm upset; it's *that* they were so rude about it. • (*formal*) The power of the wind was such *that* trees were uprooted.

3 — used to introduce a clause that states a reason or purpose • I'm glad *that* you're here. • I am sorry *that* you lost your dog. • (*literary*) Rejoice *that* the war is over! • (*literary*) “The Lord only gives us our worldly goods *that* we may do justice and mercy...” —Harriet Beecher Stowe, *Uncle Tom's Cabin* (1852) • She was saving money *so that* she could buy a car. • Carry it with both hands *so that* you don't drop it.

4 — used especially after a phrase beginning with *so* or *such* to introduce a clause that states a result • She was *so* dizzy *that* she fell down. • He was in *such* a rush *that* he forgot to take his hat.

usage *That* in senses 1, 2, 3 and 4 is often omitted in informal English, except when it is used at the beginning of a sentence. • I never said (*that*) I was afraid. • There is a chance (*that*) it might rain. • I am certain (*that*) it's true. • I'm glad (*that*) you're here. • Carry it with both hands *so* (*that*) you don't drop it. • She was *so* dizzy (*that*) she fell down. • He was in *such* a rush (*that*) he forgot to take his hat.

5 literary — used to introduce a clause expressing surprise, sorrow, anger, desire, etc. • Oh, *that* he would come back! [=I wish that he would come back] • *That* it should come to this! [=I am very shocked, disappointed, etc., by this result]

in that see ²IN

not that — used to say that something that may seem true is not true • She ignored my suggestion—*not that* I care. [=I do not care that she ignored my suggestion] • *Not that* it matters much [=it does not matter much], but is the artist a man or a woman? • Some people lie to get out of jury duty. *Not that* I ever would, of course. [=I would never lie to get out of jury duty]

³that *adj*, always used before a noun, pl *those*

1 — used to indicate which person, thing, or idea is being

shown, pointed to, or mentioned • *That* boy hit me. • *Those* books are mine. • *Those* shoes are nice. • *That* sister of yours ruined my shirt. • Can you hand me *that* wrench over there? • I like *that* idea. • Go *that* way. • *That* kind of behavior will not be tolerated in the classroom. • I was not at home on *that* day. • I left her a message, and she called me later *that* afternoon. • By *that* point in the trip, everyone was getting tired. • At *that* moment, the answer finally dawned on me. • “I can't seem to reach him at home.” “*In that case* [=if that is true], you'd better call his cell phone.” • He's skilled at writing dialogue, and *in that regard/respect* his new novel is excellent.

2 — used to indicate the one that is farther away or less familiar • Do you want this one or *that* one? • I'd like *that* one. • Are you talking about these shoes, or *those* shoes over there? • I'll try going this way, and you try going *that* way.

3 : the other • She twisted it this way and *that* way.

that way **1** : in the manner described or suggested • What makes her act *that way*? **2** : in or into the condition described or suggested • He is a very successful man and it is easy to see how he got *that way*.

⁴that *pronoun* — used to introduce a group of words that limits the meaning of a noun especially to a specific person, place, or thing • The person *that* [=who] won the race also won last year. • I'm no longer the man *that* I used to be. • Is it me *that* you are looking for? • Can you describe the person *that* [=who, (*formal*) whom] you saw? • children *that* learn to talk early • The movie *that* we watched was a drama. • The restaurant *that* I like is closing. • You should open the wine *that* our guests brought. • You were born the same year *that* I was. • I just want to be treated with the same respect *that* others are treated with. • The fact *that* you are here shows how much you care about me. • There is nothing *that* you can do about it now.

usage *That* in this sense is often omitted in informal English. • You were born the same year (*that*) I was. • You should open the wine (*that*) our guests brought. When it is the subject of a verb, however, it is always included. • The person *that* won the race also won last year. • children *that* learn to talk early

— compare ¹THAT

⁵that /'ðæt/ *adv*

1 a : to the degree that is stated or suggested • “It was the worst movie *that* I have ever seen.” “Was it really *that* bad?” “Yes, it was *that* bad.” • What would you do with *that* much money? • I don't think I'd ever been *that* sad. [=as sad as I was then] • “Don't go over the speed limit.” “Does the car even go *that* fast?” • I didn't realize the book was *that* long. • (*Brit, informal*) They were *that* [=so] poor they couldn't buy food. — often used in negative statements • I can't believe (*that*) a cup of coffee costs *that* much. • Come closer—I can't throw the ball *that* far. • We rarely see snow. It doesn't usually get *that* cold here. **b** : to the degree or extent indicated by a gesture • He is about *that* [=this, so] tall. • I need a nail about *that* long.

2 informal : to a great degree : **VERY** — usually used in negative statements • She didn't take his comments *that* seriously. • “How cold is it outside?” “It's not *that* cold.” • “When did it happen?” “Not *that* long ago.” — see also *all that* at ²ALL

¹thatch /'θætʃ/ *noun*

1 a [*noncount*] : dried plant material (such as straw or leaves) that is used to make the roof of a building • Mice were living in the *thatch* of the roof. **b** [*count*] : a roof made of *thatch* : a thatched roof • We ate lunch in the shade under the *thatch* of a beachfront restaurant.

2 [*singular*] : a thick mass of hair on a person's head • her *thatch* of dark brown hair

²thatch *verb* **thatch-es; thatched; thatch-ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (a roof) with dried plant material (called *thatch*) • *thatch* a roof

— **thatched** *adj* • a *thatched* roof • *thatched* cottages/huts [=cottages/huts that have roofs made of *thatch*]

¹thaw /'θɑ:/ *verb* **thaws; thawed; thaw-ing**

1 : to stop being frozen or to cause (something) to stop being frozen [*no obj*] The ice on the pond is beginning to *thaw*. [=melt] • Plant the seeds in early spring as soon as the ground *thaws*. — often + *out* • The meat will have to *thaw out* before you can use it. [+ *obj*] The sun will soon *thaw* the snow and ice. — often + *out* • You'll have to *thaw* the meat *out* before you can use it.

2 [*no obj*] *of weather* : to become warm enough that snow and ice melt • The weather is beginning to *thaw*.

3 : to return to a normal temperature after being very cold

[no obj] Our cold fingers and toes eventually *thawed*. — often + out • We sat in front of the fire and let our feet *thaw out*. [+ obj] She held the coffee cup tightly, trying to *thaw* her frozen fingers.

4 : to become more friendly and less angry [no obj] Relations between the countries have *thawed* since the trade embargo was lifted. [+ obj] Efforts to *thaw* relations between the two countries have failed.

²**thaw** noun, pl **thaws** [count]

1 : a period of weather that is warm enough to melt ice and snow • flooding from the spring *thaw*

2 : a situation in which a relationship becomes more friendly and less angry • a *thaw* in international relations

the /ðə before consonant sounds, ði before vowel sounds, 'ði: when said with emphasis/ definite article

1 — used to indicate a person or thing that has already been mentioned or seen or is clearly understood from the situation • He bought a house, but this is not *the* house he bought. • This is *the* restaurant I was telling you about. • I'll take *the* red one. • Put *the* cat outside. • *The* teacher gave a quiz. • She's *the* boss. • I am telling *the* truth. • What is *the* matter/ problem? • I'm no fool; you're *the* fool for believing him.

2 **a** — used to refer to things or people that are common in daily life • We talked on *the* telephone for an hour. • Turn on *the* television. • She opened *the* windows. • You need to go to *the* doctor. • He said he put the letter in *the* mail yesterday. • My suit is still at *the* dry cleaner. **b** — used to refer to things that occur in nature • *The* sky is getting dark. • A strong wind was blowing from *the* east. • The planets revolve around *the* sun. • Our daughter has *the* flu. • They talked for a while about *the* weather.

3 **a** — used to refer to a particular unit or period of time • She is out of the office at *the* moment. • *The* time has come for us to make peace. • It is the best movie of *the* year. • We are usually not home during *the* day. • during *the* winter • in *the* future/past/present • The style was popular during *the* 1980s. **b** *Brit* — used to indicate the day on which something happened or will happen • He left five days later, on *the* Sunday. [= (US) on Sunday]

4 — used before the name of a specific person, place, event, work of art, etc. • *the* President of *the* United States of America • *the* White House • *the* New York Yankees • *the* Department of Transportation • *the* Mississippi River • *the* American Civil War • *the* Renaissance • *the* Mona Lisa • *the* Bible

5 — used to indicate which person or thing you are referring to or discussing • She gave *the* correct answer. • He is competing against *the* best of *the* best. • *the* fastest runner • I took *the* last piece of pizza. • I never have *the* time to read. • He doesn't have *the* patience to paint the house. • *the* English language • *the* poet William Wordsworth • *the* right to vote • *the* London of Victorian times • He plays *the* hero of the play. • She is from *the* west coast of Africa. • *the* beginning/arrival of spring • *the* announcement of his candidacy

6 — used in titles after a person's name • Alexander *the* Great • Elizabeth *the* Second • Jack *the* Ripper • William *the* Conqueror

7 — used before an ordinal number • This is *the* first time he has been late. • Payment is due on *the* fifth of each month. • Friday *the* 13th • *the* Fourth of July

8 **a** — used before a singular noun to refer in a general way to people or things of a particular kind • This book gives some useful tips for *the* beginner. [=for beginners] • *The* cobra is a poisonous snake. [=cobras are poisonous snakes] **b** — used to indicate the type of musical instrument someone plays • She plays *the* guitar. **c** — used before an adjective that is being used as a noun to refer to all of the people or things that have a particular quality • *the* rich • *the* homeless • *the* British • *the* living and *the* dead **d** — used before a plural noun to indicate that every person or thing of the kind specified is included • *the* Greeks and *the* Romans • *The* newspapers covered *the* story. **e** — used before the plural form of a person's last name to indicate that all the members of the family are included • *the* Smiths

9 **a** — used to indicate that a person or thing is the best of its kind • This is *the* life. [=this is the way I want to live; this is a very enjoyable way to live, spend time, etc.] • I think he's *the* one (for me), and I want to marry him. • He is *the* person [=the right person] for the job. • This seems to be *the* place to be. **b** — used to indicate the most famous person having a particular name ♦ This sense of *the* is emphasized in speech. • "I saw Julia Roberts when I was in L.A." "You saw *the* Julia Roberts, the famous actress?"

10 — used to refer in a general way to a specific type of activity • *the* law • *the* arts and sciences • *the* publishing industry • I love *the* opera. • *the* cinema • He competes in *the* long jump. • *the* backstroke • The cat was on *the* prowl. • The soldiers were on *the* move.

11 **a** — used to refer to a part of your body or clothing • How's *the* [=your] arm feeling today? • He grabbed me by *the* [=my] sleeve. • She led him by *the* [=his] hand. **b** *informal* — used before a noun that refers to a person's family, job, health, etc. • How is *the* [=your] family? • I have to talk the offer over with *the* [=my] wife. • Is *the* job going well? • How's *the* headache?

the-ater (US) or chiefly *Brit* **the-atre** /'θi:ətə/ noun, pl **-aters**

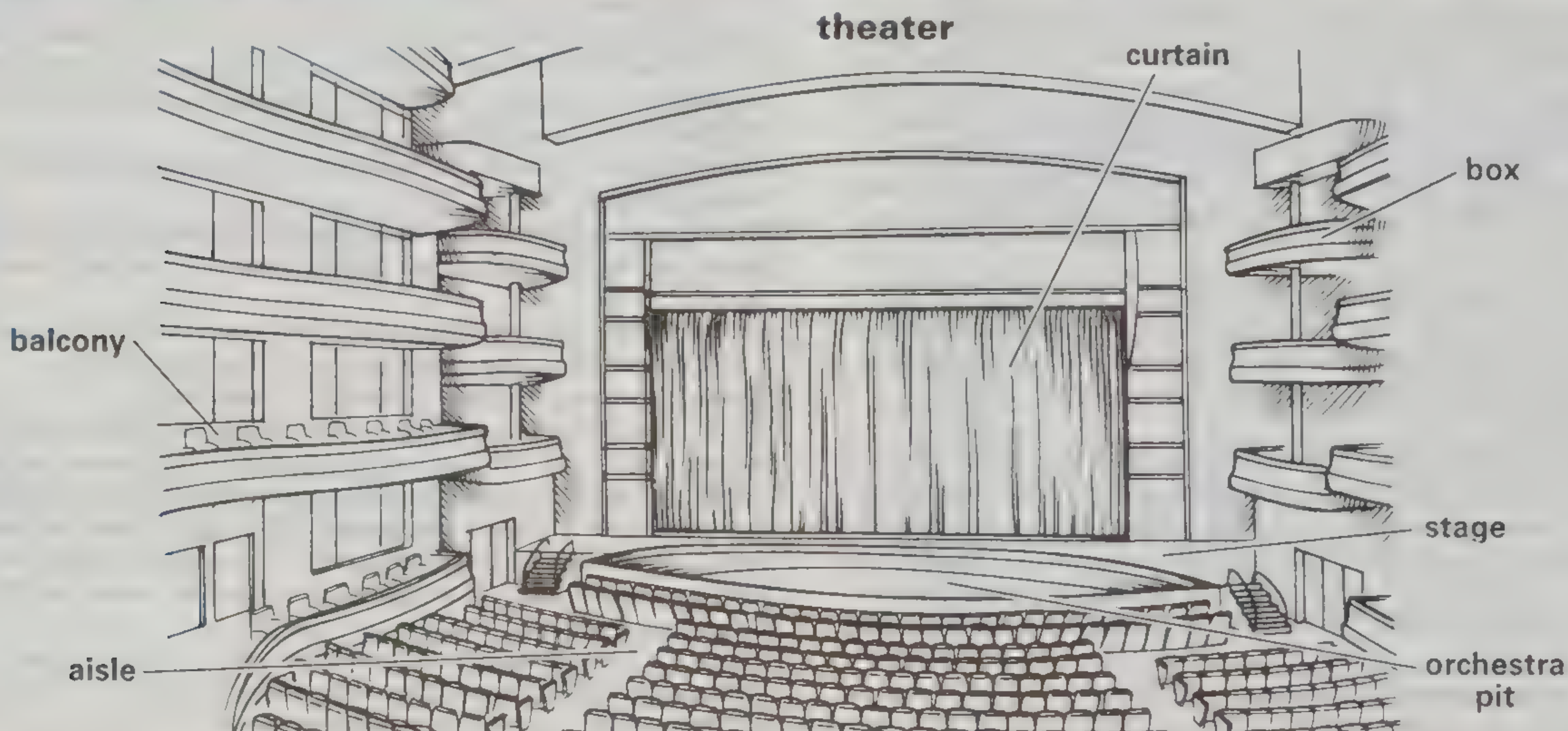
1 [count] **a** : a building where plays, shows, etc., are performed on a stage • the oldest *theater* in the city • a *theater* performance • the *theater* district in New York City — see also DINNER THEATER **b** *US* : a building or room in which movies are shown • The film is now showing in *theaters*. • a movie *theater* • a home *theater*

2 [noncount] **a** : plays in general or as a form of entertainment • We enjoyed a weekend of music, dance, and *theater*. • He was very fond of the *theater* and had purchased tickets for several performances. • Her interests include *theater* and poetry. • the *theater* of 16th-century England • a *theater* critic **b** : the art or activity of performing in or producing plays on a stage • She majored in *theater* in college. • a course in American *theater* • His monologues made for good *theater*. • The play makes lively *theater*. • a *theater* troupe/company — see also COMMUNITY THEATER

3 [count] **a** : a place where important events or actions occur — usually singular • the *theater* of health-care reform **b** : a large area where there is a war • He fought in the Pacific *theater* (of operations) in World War II.

4 [count] *Brit* : OPERATING ROOM

the-ater-go-er (US) or chiefly *Brit* **the-atre-go-er**



/ˈθiːjətəˌɡowə/ noun, pl -ers [count] : a person who often goes to the theater to see plays

— **the·ater·go·ing** (US) or chiefly Brit **the·atre·go·ing** /ˈθiːjətəˌɡowɪŋ/ **adj** • the *theatergoing* public

the·at·ri·cal /θiˈætrɪkəl/ **adj**

1 : of or relating to the theater • *theatrical* costumes/ambitions

2 [*more ~*; *most ~*] : behaving or done in a way that is meant to attract attention and that is often not genuine or sincere • a *theatrical* gesture/bow • *theatrical* behavior • a politician who has a highly/very *theatrical* manner of speaking

— **the·at·ri·cal·i·ty** /θiˌætrəˈkæləti/ **noun [noncount]** — **the·at·ri·cal·ly** /θiˈætrɪkli/ **adv**

the·at·ri·cals /θiˈætrɪkəlz/ **noun [plural]**

1 : the performance of plays on a stage • amateur *theatricals*

2 Brit : THEATRICALS 1

the·at·rics /θiˈætrɪks/ **noun [plural]** chiefly US

1 often *disapproving* : ways of behaving and speaking that are like a performance on a stage and are intended to attract attention • courtroom *theatrics* • the *theatrics* of politicians

2 : THEATRICALS 1 • amateur *theatrics*

thee /ˈðiː/ **pronoun, old-fashioned + literary** — used as a singular form of “you” when it is the object of a verb or preposition. • “I take *thee* at thy word . . .” —Shakespeare, *Romeo and Juliet* (1594–95) • “Sweet land of liberty, of *thee* I sing . . .” —Samuel Francis Smith, “My Country, ‘Tis of Thee” (1831)

theft /ˈθɛft/ **noun, pl thefts** : the act or crime of stealing [*count*] car *thefts* • The *theft* of the jewelry and other valuables was immediately reported to the police. [*noncount*] He was found guilty of *theft*. — see also GRAND THEFT, PETIT THEFT, PETTY THEFT

their /ˈðeə, ðə/ **adj, always used before a noun, possessive form of THEY**

1 : relating to or belonging to certain people, animals, or things • All the furniture in *their* house is brand-new. • They are on friendly terms with *their* neighbors. • The students are seeking to exercise *their* rights. • The birds have left *their* nest. • The trees have all shed *their* leaves. : made or done by certain people, animals, or things • *Their* artwork is on display at the museum. • They did *their* best. • *Their* conversation went well. • He was angry because of *their* arriving/being late.

2 : his or her : his : her : its — used to refer to a single person whose sex is not known or specified • Anyone in *their* right mind would find it unjust. • Each person reacts to *their* environment differently.

Do not confuse *their* with *there* or *they're*.

theirs /ˈðeəz/ **pronoun**

1 : that which belongs to or is connected with them : their one : their ones • The computer is *theirs*. [=the computer belongs to them; it is their computer] • He bought his car on the same day his parents bought *theirs*. • She is a friend *of theirs*. [=she is their friend] • That dog *of theirs* [=their dog] is always barking.

2 : his or hers — used to refer to a single person whose sex is not known or specified • I will do my part if everybody else does *theirs*.

the·ism /ˈθiːˌɪzəm/ **noun [noncount]** : the belief that God exists or that many gods exist — compare MONOTHEISM, POLYTHEISM

— **the·ist** /ˈθiːjɪst/ **noun, pl -ists [count]**

them /ˈðɛm, ðəm/ **pronoun, objective form of THEY**

1 — used to refer to certain people, animals, or things as the objects of a verb or preposition • Their mother drove *them* to soccer practice. • I haven't met *them* yet. • You can ask any of *them* for help. • I played basketball with *them* yesterday.

2 : him or her — used to refer to a single person whose sex is not known or specified • The teacher said that if anyone came forward and admitted to the prank, she wouldn't punish *them*. [=she wouldn't punish that person]

3 *informal + humorous* : those — used in nonstandard speech • *Them's* fighting words. [=those are words that are likely to cause a fight]

the·mat·ic /θiˈmætɪk/ **adj** : of or relating to a theme • *thematic* writing • the *thematic* development in the story

— **the·mat·i·cal·ly** /θiˈmætɪkli/ **adv** • The poems are grouped *thematically*.

theme /ˈθiːm/ **noun, pl themes [count]**

1 : the main subject that is being discussed or described in a piece of writing, a movie, etc. • The quest for power is the

underlying *theme* of the film. • A constant *theme* in his novels is religion. • The playwright skillfully brings together various *themes*. • The album focuses on *themes* of love and loss. • Adventures are popular *themes* in children's books.

2 a : a particular subject or issue that is discussed often or repeatedly • The growing deficit was a dominant *theme* in the election. **b** : the particular subject or idea on which the style of something (such as a party or room) is based • The party had a Hawaiian luau *theme*. • The *theme* of the baby's room was zoo animals. [=the baby's bedroom was decorated with pictures of zoo animals] • a *theme* party

3 music a : the main melody that is repeated in a piece of music **b** : THEME SONG • They played the *theme* from/to the movie “Rocky.”

4 US : a short piece of writing by a student on a particular subject : ESSAY • The students were assigned to write a *theme* on the person they admired most.

— **themed** /ˈθiːmd/ **adj, always used before a noun** • *themed* restaurants/events • a sports-*themed* restaurant • a Hawaiian-*themed* party

theme park **noun, pl ~ parks [count]** : an amusement park where the rides and attractions are based on a particular theme (sense 2b)

theme song **noun, pl ~ songs [count]** : a song that is played at the beginning and end of a television show, movie, etc. • He was playing the *theme song* from/to “The Godfather.”

them·selves /ðɛmˈsɛlvz/ **pronoun**

1 : those same people, animals, or things: **a** — used as the object of a verb or preposition to refer to people, animals, or things that have already been mentioned • They are getting *themselves* ready. • They did most of the painting *themselves*. • nations that govern *themselves* • They were dedicated to helping those less fortunate than *themselves*. • people who are unable to care *for themselves* • They enjoyed working *for themselves*. • They kept their plans *to themselves*. [=they kept their plans secret] • She had the house *all to herself*. [=she was alone in the house] **b** — used for emphasis to refer again to people, animals, or things that have already been mentioned • They were young once *themselves*. • They *themselves* were quite surprised when they won the game.

2 : himself or herself — used to refer to a single person whose sex is not known or specified • Nobody should blame *themselves*.

3 : their normal or healthy selves • They were *themselves* again after a night's rest. • They didn't feel like *themselves* for a while after the long flight.

by themselves **1** : without any help from other people • The students solved the math problem *by themselves*. **2** : with nobody else : ALONE • They toured the city *by themselves* instead of traveling with a guide.

then /ˈðɛn/ **adv**

1 : at that time : at the time mentioned • It was *then* believed (that) the Earth was flat. • She lived in the Soviet Union, as it *then* was called. • Just *then* he walked in. • Back *then*, he was living in New York.

2 a — used to indicate what happened or happens next • He walked down the street, *then* turned the corner. • First the clowns come out, (and) *then* the elephants and lions (come out). **b** — used to indicate what should be done next • “Take your first right, (and) *then* turn left at the light,” he said. • Bring the soup to a boil, *then* turn down the heat and let it simmer for half an hour. **c** — used to indicate something more that must be done or thought of • We need to choose the menu, rent a banquet hall, and *then* there are the invitations to send.

3 a — used to indicate what must be true or what must or should happen if something else is true or happens • If you were there, *then* you must have seen him. • If it rains, *then* we can't go. • “It's raining.” “*Then* we can't go.” • “He confessed.” “The case is closed, *then*.” • If you want it, *then* take it. = Take it, *then*, if you want it. • Hurry, *then*, if you want to catch the bus. • What if there should be a fire? *What then?* [=what will happen then?] ♢ *Then* is often omitted following *if*. • If it rains, (*then*) we can't go. **b** — used to say or ask about what appears to be true based on what has happened or been said • You did go, *then*, after all. • Your mind is made up, *then?* **c** — used to say what has been agreed to or decided • OK, *then*, I'll see you at seven o'clock. **d** *somewhat formal* — used to make a final statement that refers back to the things that have just been mentioned or described • These, *then*, are the things you must do. • All of us, *then*, must accept some blame for these problems.

4 — used after words like *all right* and *OK* at the beginning of a statement • All right, *then*, let's get started.

and then some see ²SOME

but then see ¹BUT

even then see ²EVEN

(every) now and then see ¹NOW

then and there or chiefly Brit there and then : immediately at that place • I decided (right) *then and there* that I would accept the offer. • I made up my mind *then and there*.

²**then** *noun* [singular] : that time • Since *then*, I've been more careful. • He advised me to wait until *then*. • They'll announce their decision next week. Until *then*, she'll just have to hope for the best. • We should get there before *then*. • They were friends from *then* on. • Nothing like that had ever happened up to *then*.

³**then** *adj*, always used before a noun : existing at or belonging to the time mentioned • She was appointed to the position by Connecticut's *then* governor. [=by the person who was Connecticut's governor at that time]

thence /'ðens/ *adv*, formal : from that place : from there • Their travels took them to the Bahamas, *thence* south to Venezuela.

thenceforth /'ðens,foəθ/ *adv*, formal : from that time forward : starting then • He was determined *thenceforth* to dedicate himself to his studies. • *Thenceforth*, she decided, she would deal with the media herself.

the-oc-ra-cy /θi'ɑ:krəsi/ *noun*, pl -cies

1 [noncount] : a form of government in which a country is ruled by religious leaders

2 [count] : a country that is ruled by religious leaders

— **theo-crat-ic** /θi:jə'krætɪk/ *adj* • a *theocratic* government/ regime

theo-lo-gian /θi:jə'louɟən/ *noun*, pl -gians [count] : a person who is an expert on theology

the-ol-o-gy /θi'ɑ:lɔɟi/ *noun*, pl -gies

1 [noncount] : the study of religious faith, practice, and experience : the study of God and God's relation to the world • He has an interest in *theology* and pastoral work.

2 [count] : a system of religious beliefs or ideas • Christian/Muslim/Jewish *theology* • The bishop was opposed to the group's *theology*.

— **theo-log-i-cal** /θi:jə'lɑ:ɟɪkəl/ *adj* • *theological* studies/ arguments — **theo-log-i-cal-ly** /θi:jə'lɑ:ɟɪkli/ *adv*

the-o-rem /θi:jərəm/ *noun*, pl -rems [count] *technical* : a formula or statement that can be proved from other formulas or statements • mathematical *theorems*

the-o-ret-i-cal /θi:jə'retɪkəl/ also **the-o-ret-ic** /θi:jə'retɪk/ *adj*

1 : relating to what is possible or imagined rather than to what is known to be true or real • On a *theoretical* level, hiring more people seems logical. • The idea is purely *theoretical* at this point. • a *theoretical* argument • The teacher gave us a *theoretical* [=hypothetical] situation as an example. • The danger is more than just a *theoretical* possibility. • I was speaking *in theoretical terms*. [=theoretically]

2 : relating to the general principles or ideas of a subject rather than the practical uses of those ideas • *theoretical* physics

— **the-o-ret-i-cal-ly** /θi:jə'retɪkli/ *adv* • *Theoretically*, the value of the funds could triple in the next few months. • It is *theoretically* possible but unlikely to happen. • He argued *theoretically*.

the-o-re-ti-cian /θi:jərə'tɪʃən/ *noun*, pl -cians [count] : THEORIST

the-o-rist /θi:jərɪst/ *noun*, pl -rists [count] : a person who forms theories about something • political *theorists*

the-o-rize also Brit **the-o-rise** /θi:jə'raɪz/ *verb* -riz-es; -rized; -riz-ing : to think of or suggest ideas about what is possibly true or real : to form or suggest a theory about something [no obj] Many scientists have *theorized* about/on the possibility of life on other planets. [+ obj] — usually + *that* • The police *theorized that* the same person was responsible for both murders.

the-o-ry /θi:jəri/ *noun*, pl -ries

1 : an idea or set of ideas that is intended to explain facts or events [count] a widely accepted scientific *theory* • Einstein's *theory* of relativity • *theories* on/about evolution [noncount] according to atomic/economic *theory*

2 [count] : an idea that is suggested or presented as possibly true but that is not known or proven to be true • Her method is based on the *theory* that all children want to learn. • There are a number of different *theories* about the cause of the dis-

ease. • She proposed a *theory* of her own. • Investigators rejected the *theory* that the death was accidental. • There is no evidence to support such a *theory*.

3 [noncount] : the general principles or ideas that relate to a particular subject • He is a specialist in film *theory* and criticism. • music *theory*

in theory **1** — used to say what should happen or be true if a theory is correct • *In theory*, the reading skills of the students should improve. **2** — used to say that something seems to be true or possible as an idea but may not actually be true or possible • I agree with you *in theory*, but realistically I don't think we have the time to do that.

ther-a-peu-tic /θerə'pi:ʊtɪk/ *adj*

1 [more ~; most ~] : producing good effects on your body or mind • the *therapeutic* benefits of yoga • Gardening can be very *therapeutic*.

2 : of or relating to the treatment of illness • a *therapeutic* diet • the *therapeutic* effects of radiation

ther-a-peu-tics /θerə'pi:ʊtɪks/ *noun* [noncount] *medical* : a branch of medicine that deals with the ways to treat illnesses

ther-a-pist /θerəpɪst/ *noun*, pl -pists [count]

1 : a person trained in methods of treating illnesses especially without the use of drugs or surgery • He works with a *therapist* to improve his speech. — see also OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST, PHYSICAL THERAPIST, PHYSIOTHERAPIST

2 : a person who helps people deal with mental or emotional problems by talking about those problems : a person trained in psychotherapy • He saw his *therapist* [=psychotherapist] regularly when he was going through his divorce. • a family *therapist*

ther-a-py /θerəpi/ *noun*, pl -pies

1 : the treatment of physical or mental illnesses [noncount] He is undergoing cancer *therapy*. [count] new drug *therapies* — see also CHEMOTHERAPY, GENE THERAPY, GROUP THERAPY, HORMONE REPLACEMENT THERAPY, OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY, PHYSICAL THERAPY, SHOCK THERAPY, SPEECH THERAPY

2 [noncount] : PSYCHOTHERAPY

¹**there** /'ðeə/ *adv*

1 a : in that place : at that location • Put the package *there* on the table. • Go to your room and stay *there*. • Turn *there* at the church. • She was sitting *there* a minute ago. • Hello. Is Pat *there*? • They have lived *there* for 30 years. • When will you be *there*? • Please stand over *there*. • I used to live near/around *there*. • What do you see out/down/up/in *there*? • At last we're *there*! [=we have arrived at the place we were traveling to] • The opportunity to score was *there* [=was available], so I took the shot. — used in speech when something is found • So *there* you are. I've been looking for you. • Ah, *there's* the book I've been looking for. **b** : to or into that place • If we leave now, we should get *there* by noon. • I drove the kids *there*. • He drove *there* and back in one day. • Can we walk *there*? • We go *there* every year.

2 a : at that point in a process, activity, story, etc. • Stop right *there*, before you say something you'll regret. • *There* the story takes a surprising turn. **b** : in that particular matter • *There* is where I disagree with you.

3 a — used with the verb *be* at the beginning of a sentence that makes a statement about a situation or asks about a situation • *There is* no way to know when he'll be home. • *There's* no point in arguing about it. • *There's* still a lot for us to do. • *There are* many things to be considered. • *There is* a person waiting to see you. [=a person is waiting to see you] • *Is there* a gas station nearby? **b** — used to introduce a sentence in which the subject comes after the verb • *There* will come a time [=a time will come] when I will need your help. • *There* used to be a school here. • Once upon a time, *there* lived a beautiful princess named Snow White.

4 — used in speech after a noun to emphasize which person, thing, etc., you are referring to • That clock *there* once belonged to my great-grandmother. • I just saw that boy *there* stealing a piece of candy. • You *there*! What are you doing?!

5 informal — used to address a person or animal • Well, hello *there*. • Say *there*, do you have the time?

6 — used to introduce a sentence in which the subject comes after the verb • *There* was your chance [=that was your chance] to ask her out on a date. • *There's* still a lot for us to do. • Eat your vegetables. *There's* a good girl. [=you're a good girl if you eat your vegetables]

Do not confuse *there* with *their* or *they're*.

been there, done that see BE 8

have been there — used to say that you have experienced the same thing that someone else has experienced • I know how you feel. I've *been there* (before) myself.

here and there see ¹HERE

here, there, and everywhere see ¹HERE

neither here nor there see ¹HERE

out there informal — used to say in a general way that someone or something exists • I'm not surprised that he lied about it. There are a lot of people like him *out there*. [=there are a lot of other people who would have lied] • Be careful when you drive. There are a lot of crazy drivers *out there*. • She's been searching for the right car to buy. It's *out there* somewhere. — see also OUT-THERE

then and there or there and then see ¹THEN

there go/goes see ¹GO

there's . . . for you see ¹FOR

there you are or there you go informal 1 — used to tell someone that you have given them what they asked for • *There you are*, sir. That will be \$3 for the coffees. • "Could you pass the salt?" "Sure, *there you go*." **2** — used to indicate that something is completed or done in a satisfactory way • You just plug it in, push this button, and *there you are*. • *There you are*, then. You got what you wanted. • Wait, I want to fix your tie. *There you go*.

there you have it informal — used to indicate that something is completed or done in a satisfactory way • You just plug it in, push this button, and *there you have it*. • *There you have it*. The mystery is solved.

you have me there or there you have me see HAVE

²**there** *adj*, not used before a noun : capable of being relied on for support or help • My dad has always been *there* for me. [=has always helped me when I needed his help] • She is *there* to answer any questions you might have.

not all there see ²ALL

³**there** *interj*

1 — used to attract attention • *There*, look at that. • *There*, you've gone and broken it!

2 — used to show satisfaction, approval, or encouragement • *There*, it's finished at last. • *There*, I told you so.

so there informal — used to say in a somewhat rude, angry, or childish way that you have stated your opinion or decision and will not change it • Well, I don't want to be your friend, either. *So there!* • I'm going no matter what you say. *So there!*

there, there — used to tell someone not to be worried or unhappy • *There, there* [=now, now], don't cry. Everything will be OK.

⁴**there** *noun* [noncount]

1 : that place • Get away *from there*.

2 : that point • I'll get everything ready, and you *take it from there*.

thereabouts /ˈðerəˈbaʊts/ *also* **US there-about** /ˈðerəˈbaʊt/ *adv* : near or around that place, time, number, amount, etc. • He lives on Maple Street *or thereabouts*. • It happened in 1977 *or thereabouts*. • There were 50 people *or thereabouts*. — compare HEREABOUTS

there-after /ˈðerəˈæftər, Brit ˈðerˈɑːftər/ *adv, formal* : after that • *Thereafter*, the two companies operated in full partnership. • She returned shortly *thereafter*.

there-by /ˈðerəˈbaɪ/ *adv, formal* : by means of that act, those words, that document, etc. • He signed the contract, *thereby* forfeiting his right to the property.

thereby hangs a tale see ¹HANG

there'd /ˈðeəd/ — used as a contraction of *there had* or *there would* • *There'd* [=there had] never been a case like it before. • I knew *there'd* [=there would] be trouble.

there-fore /ˈðerəˈfoːr/ *adv, somewhat formal* : for that reason : because of that • The cell phone is thin and light and *therefore* very convenient to carry around. • Payment was received two weeks after it was due; *therefore*, you will be charged a late fee.

there-in /ˈðerəˈɪn/ *adv, formal*

1 : in or into that place or thing • The insurance covers the apartment and all the property *therein*. • His name was mentioned in the article, although he was incorrectly described *therein* as a medical doctor.

2 : in that statement, fact, or detail • They have to make a decision soon. *Therein lies* the problem. [=that is why there is a problem] If they act too quickly, they run the risk of choosing the wrong plan.

there-of /ˈðerəˈʌv/ *adv, formal* : of the thing that has been mentioned • The professor explained the problem and solu-

tion *thereof*. [=the problem and the solution of the problem] • A will or any part *thereof* [=any part of a will] may be revoked by a subsequent will. • The problem is money, or (a/the) *lack thereof*. [=the problem is a lack of money]

there-on /ˈðerəˈɑːn/ *adv, formal* : on the thing that has been mentioned • The highway and structures *thereon* are being repaired. • a text with a commentary *thereon*

there's /ˈðeəz, ðəz/ — used as a contraction of *there is* or *there has* • *There's* [=there is] a lot more to do. • *There's* [=there has] never been any reason to doubt him.

there-to /ˈðerəˈtuː/ *adv, formal* : to the thing that has been mentioned • The bill and amendments *thereto* are being considered.

there-un-der /ˈðerəˈʌndər/ *adv, formal* : under the thing that has been mentioned • the statute and regulations *thereunder*

there-up-on /ˈðerəˈpɑːn/ *adv, formal*

1 : immediately after that • The committee reviewed the documents and *thereupon* decided to accept the proposal.

2 : on the thing that has been mentioned • The jurors discussed the evidence and made/based their decision *thereupon*.

¹**ther-mal** /ˈθəməl/ *adj*

1 : of, relating to, or caused by heat • *thermal* energy • *thermal* insulation/stress

2 : designed to keep you warm by preventing heat from leaving your body • *thermal* clothing/underwear

3 : having hot water flowing out of the ground • *thermal* springs/waters

— **ther-mal-ly** *adv*

²**thermal** *noun, pl -mals*

1 [count] : a rising current of warm air that is produced when the sun heats an area of the ground

2 *thermals* [plural] *Brit* : thermal clothing or underwear

ther-mo-dy-nam-ics /ˌθəməuˈdaɪˈnæmɪks/ *noun* [noncount] *technical* : a science that deals with the action of heat and related forms of energy

— **ther-mo-dy-nam-ic** /ˌθəməuˈdaɪˈnæmɪk/ *adj* — **ther-mo-dy-nam-i-cal-ly** /ˌθəməuˈdaɪˈnæmɪkli/ *adv*

ther-mom-e-ter /θəˈmɑːmətər/ *noun, pl -ters* [count] : an instrument used for measuring temperature • The *thermometer* says it's almost 80 degrees outside, but it doesn't feel that hot. • a digital/meat *thermometer*

ther-mo-nu-cle-ar /ˌθəməuˈnuːklijər, Brit ˌθəːməuˈnjuːklijər/ *adj, technical* : of or relating to the changes in the nucleus of atoms that happen at extremely high temperatures • a *thermonuclear* reaction/explosion • Hydrogen bombs are *thermonuclear* weapons/devices.

ther-mos /ˈθəməs/ *noun, pl -mos-es* [count] : a container that keeps liquids hot or cold for long periods of time — called also (US) *thermos bottle*, (Brit) *flask*, (Brit) *vacuum flask*

ther-mo-stat /ˈθəməˌstæt/ *noun, pl -stats* [count] : a device that automatically adjusts the temperature in a room temperature to a desired level • I set the *thermostat* to 68 degrees; *also* : a similar device used for adjusting the temperature of a machine or system

the-sau-rus /θiˈsɔːrəs/ *noun, pl -sau-ri* /-ˈsoʊəri/ *or* **-sau-rus-es** /-ˈsɔːrəsəz/ [count] : a book in which words that have the same or similar meanings are grouped together

these *plural of THIS*

the-sis /ˈθiːsəs/ *noun, pl the-ses* /ˈθiːsɪz/ [count]

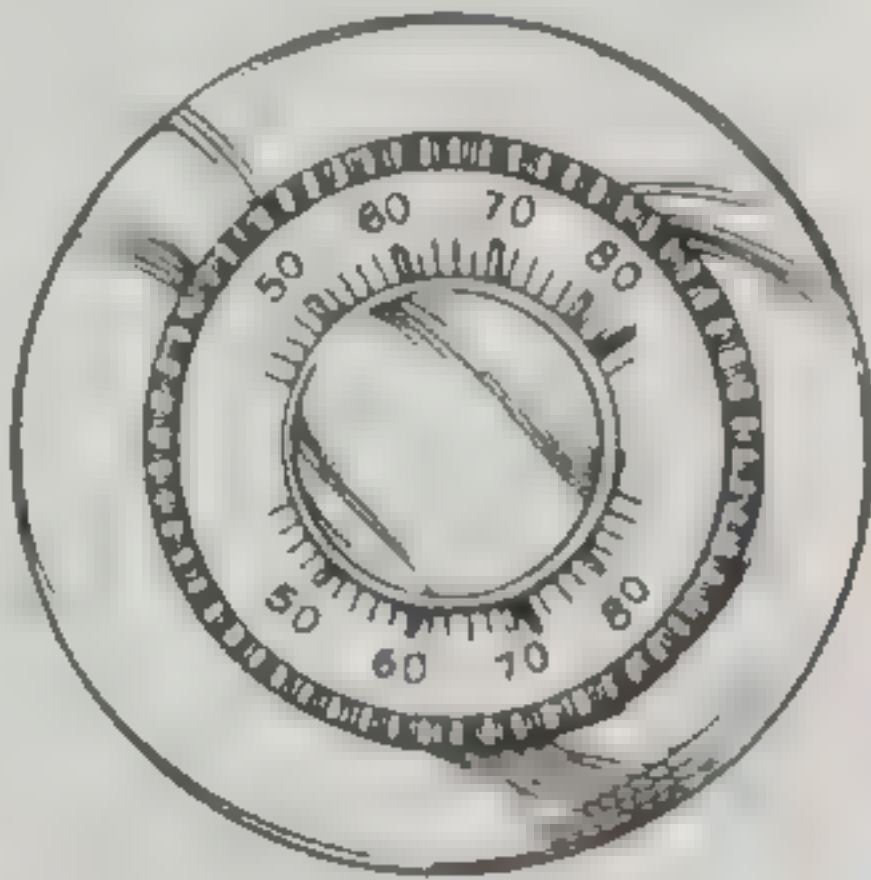
1 : a long piece of writing on a particular subject that is done to earn a degree at a university • She wrote her *thesis* on Renaissance Nativity scenes. • a master's/doctoral *thesis* on the effects of global warming

2 *formal* : a statement that someone wants to discuss or prove • New evidence supports his *thesis*. • We disagreed with the basic *thesis* of the report. • The book's central *thesis* is that propaganda influences the masses in important ways.

thes-pi-an /ˈθespiən/ *noun, pl -ans* [count] *formal + sometimes humorous* : ACTOR • a renowned *thespian* and director



thermometer



thermostat



they /'ðei/ *pronoun*

1 : those people, animals, or things • *They* dance very well. • *They* both played on the football team. • *They* are thinking of getting a pet. • What are *they* doing?

2 — used to refer to people in a general way or to a group of people who are not specified • You know what *they* say: you only live once. • *They* say it will be a mild winter. [=people who predict the weather say that it will be a mild winter] • She's as hardworking as *they* come. [=she's extremely hardworking] • *They* will be holding the graduation outdoors if the weather permits. • *They* took away his license.

3 : he or she — used to refer to a single person whose sex is not known or specified • Everyone can go if *they* want to.

they'd /'ðeid/ — used as a contraction of *they had* or *they would* • They admitted that *they'd* [=they had] been foolish. • *They'd* [=they would] love to go but won't be able to.

they'll /'ðeɪl, ðeɪl/ — used as a contraction of *they will* • *They'll* be arriving soon.

they're /'ðeə, ðə/ — used as a contraction of *they are* • It all depends on whether *they're* available or not.

Do not confuse *they're* with *their* or *there*.

they've /'ðerv/ — used as a contraction of *they have* • I don't think *they've* made up their minds yet.

thi-a-mine or **thi-a-min** /'θajəmən/ *noun* [noncount] : a natural substance (called a vitamin) that is found in certain foods and that helps your body to be healthy — called also *vitamin B₁*

¹thick /'θɪk/ *adj* **thick-er; -est** [also more ~; most ~]

1 a : having a large distance between the top and bottom or front and back surfaces : not thin • a *thick* book/board • *thick* walls • a *thick* layer of ice • He wore *thick* glasses. [=glasses with thick lenses] • a *thick* cigar • a *thick* slice of ham/bread/cake • a *thick*, juicy steak • pizza with a *thick* crust • a *thick* wool sweater • a bodybuilder with a *thick*, short body • He was a man in his fifties, a little *thick around the middle*. [=fat around his waist] **b** : having a specified distance from one surface to the opposite surface : having a specified thickness • The planks were two inches *thick*. • The log was 12 inches *thick*. • The recipe calls for one cup of mushrooms sliced ¼ inch *thick*.

2 a : having parts that are close together • a *thick* [=dense] forest • *thick* woods **b** : growing closely together and in a large amount • a dog/cat with *thick* fur • She has *thick*, curly hair.

3 : difficult to see through : DENSE • *thick* black smoke • The fog/haze was *thick* this morning. • a *thick* blanket of fog

4 of a liquid : not flowing easily • The stew/chili was very *thick*. • *thick* gravy/sauce/syrup • a *thick* milkshake • The batter was too *thick*.

5 a of speech or the voice : difficult to understand • His speech was *thick* and slurred. — often + *with* • Her voice was *thick with* emotion when she talked about her divorce. **b of a person's accent** : very easy to notice • He spoke with a *thick* [=heavy] accent.

6 informal : STUPID **1** • They were just too *thick* to understand what I was saying. • Why can't he get it through his *thick head* that I don't like him? [=why can't he understand that I don't like him?]

7 not used before a noun **a chiefly US** : existing in great numbers or large amounts • The mosquitoes were *thick* [=there were a lot of mosquitoes] near the lake. • Tension was *thick* in the office. [=there was a lot of tension in the office] **b** : having great numbers or a large amount of something — + *with* • The air was *thick with* mosquitoes. • The atmosphere was *thick with* anticipation as we waited for the results.

8 not used before a noun, informal : having a close and friendly relationship • Those two are really *thick*. [=close] • They were (as) *thick as thieves* [=very close and secretive] for weeks, which made us wonder what they were doing. — often + *with* • He was very *thick with* his pastor.

a thick ear *Brit, informal* : the punishment of being hit on the side of the head • He threatened to *give him a thick ear*. [= (US) to slap him upside the head]

(a) *thick skin* see **¹SKIN**
blood is thicker than water see **BLOOD**
thick on the ground : existing or occurring in large amounts • Hotels and restaurants are *thick on the ground* along the strip. • Presidential candidates are *thick on the ground* this year. [=there are a lot of presidential candidates this year]

²thick *adv* **thick-er; -est** [also more ~; most ~]

1 : in a way that makes thick pieces, layers, etc. • Slice the roast *thick*.

2 : in great numbers • Apples hung *thick* on the trees. • Suggestions were coming in *thick and fast*. [=large numbers of suggestions were coming in quickly]

lay it on thick see **¹LAY**

³thick *noun*

in the thick of : in the most active or intense part of (something) • a soldier *in the thick of* (the) battle • He found himself *in the thick of* the action. • We're really *in the thick of* things now.

through thick and thin : through many difficult times over a long period • She stood by me *through thick and thin*.

thick-en /'θɪkən/ *verb* **-ens; -ened; -en-ing** : to make (something) thick or thicker or to become thick or thicker [+ *obj*] I *thickened* the gravy with flour. [no *obj*] When the mixture *thickens*, add the remaining ingredients. • The fog *thickened* when night fell.

the plot thickens see **¹PLOT**

-thick-en-er /'θɪkənə/ *noun*, *pl* **-ers** [count] • Flour/cornstarch is used as a *thickener* in sauces.

thick-et /'θɪkət/ *noun*, *pl* **-ets** [count] : a group of bushes or small trees that grow close together • a dense *thicket* of rosebushes — often used figuratively • A *thicket* of reporters blocked the entrance to city hall. • a tangled *thicket* of laws

thick-head-ed /'θɪk,hɛdəd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *informal* : not intelligent or sensible : STUPID • He's a stubborn and *thick-headed* old fool. • a *thick-headed* decision

thick-ly /'θɪkli/ *adv* [more ~; most ~]

1 : in a way that makes thick pieces, layers, etc. • *thickly* sliced mushrooms • *thickly* padded cushions • He buttered the bread *thickly*.

2 : with a lot of people, trees, etc., close together • a *thickly* settled neighborhood • a *thickly* wooded area

3 of speech or the voice : in a way that is difficult to understand • *thickly* accented speech

thick-ness /'θɪknəs/ *noun*

1 a : the distance between the top and bottom or front and back surfaces of something : a measurement of how thick something is [noncount] The plank measures two inches in *thickness*. [count] the length, circumference, and *thickness* of the log • Plywood is available in various *thicknesses*. • Cooking time will vary depending on the *thickness* of the steak/chops. **b** [noncount] : the quality of being thick • I added flour to increase the gravy's *thickness*. • I was surprised by the *thickness* of his accent.

2 [count] : a layer or sheet of some material — usually + *of* • a single *thickness* of canvas/foil/cloth

thick-set /'θɪk,set/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : having a short, thick body • a *thickset* man

thick-skinned /'θɪk,skɪnd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : having a thick skin • a *thick-skinned* orange

2 : not easily bothered by criticism or insults : not sensitive • You need to be *thick-skinned* if you are going to work in politics. — opposite **THIN-SKINNED**

thief /'θi:f/ *noun*, *pl* **thieves** /'θi:vz/ [count] : a person who steals something • a car *thief* • A *thief* took my purse.

thiev-ery /'θi:vəri/ *noun* [noncount] *formal* : the act of stealing • They accused him of *thievery*. [=they accused him of stealing something] • a case of suspected *thievery*

thiev-ing /'θi:vɪŋ/ *noun* [noncount] *somewhat old-fashioned* : the act or activity of stealing • They finally found out about his *thieving*.

— **thieving** *adj*, always used before a noun • You *thieving* liar!

thigh /'θaɪ/ *noun*, *pl* **thighs** [count]

1 : the part of your leg that is above the knee — see picture at **HUMAN**

2 : the side part of the leg of a bird • boneless chicken *thighs*

thigh-bone /'θaɪ,bəʊn/ *noun*, *pl* **-bones** [count] : the long bone in the upper part of the leg : FEMUR — see picture at **HUMAN**

thim-ble /'θɪmbəl/ *noun*, *pl* **thim-bles** [count] : a small metal or plastic cap used in sewing to protect the finger that pushes the needle — see picture at **SEWING**

¹thin /'θɪn/ *adj* **thin-ner; -nest** [also more ~; most ~]

1 : having a small distance between the top and bottom or front and back surfaces : not thick • *thin* paper/walls • a *thin* band/line/stripe • a *thin* coating/layer of dust • pizza with a *thin* crust • a *thin* slice of ham

2 : not having a lot of extra flesh on the body : not fat • a *thin* child • She is very/too *thin*. • *thin* legs *synonyms* see **²LEAN**

3 a : not growing closely together • a *thin* stand of trees : not growing in a large amount • *thin* hair • His hair is a little *thin* on top. = He's a little *thin* on top. [=he does not have a lot of hair on the top of his head] **b** : having less than the usual, original, or needed number or amount • Attendance at the carnival was a bit *thin*. [=low] • My patience was *wearing/running thin*. [=I was becoming less patient]

4 of a liquid : flowing very easily : containing a lot of water • *thin* broth/gravy/soup

5 : having less oxygen than normal • *thin* air • a *thin* atmosphere

6 : easy to see through • The fog was relatively *thin*. • a *thin* mist

7 : not large or impressive • a *thin* [=very small] margin of victory • She has a *thin* [=narrow] lead in the polls.

8 : not very good, useful, etc. : **WEAK** • *thin* arguments/explanations • That excuse is pretty *thin*. • The story's plot is pretty *thin*. • His argument quickly *wore thin*. • a *thin* smile [=a weak smile that does not seem sincere]

9 of a voice : weak and high • a high, *thin* voice

(a) thin skin see ¹SKIN

disappear/vanish into thin air : to disappear completely in a way that is mysterious • The papers seem to have *vanished into thin air*.

have a thin time (of it) *Brit* : to be in a difficult situation especially because you do not have enough money • He was *having a thin time of it* until his novel started selling.

on thin ice see ¹ICE

out of thin air — used to say that someone or something appears in a sudden and unexpected way • He appeared *out of thin air*. [=out of nowhere]

the thin end of the wedge *Brit* : the beginning of something that will become more serious, unpleasant, etc. • The bank's decision to raise rates could be *the thin end of the wedge*. [=many other banks may also decide to raise rates]

thin on the ground *Brit* : existing or occurring in very small amounts • Useful suggestions have been *thin on the ground* lately. [=there have been very few useful suggestions lately]

through thick and thin see ³THICK

— **thin-ness** /'θɪnnəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

thin *verb* **thins; thinned; thin-ning** : to make (something or someone) thin or thinner or to become thin or thinner: such as **a** : to become less crowded, close together, or full [*no obj*] The crowd gradually *thinned* [=grew smaller] as the night went on. • The trees *thinned* as we climbed higher. [=there were fewer trees as we climbed higher] [*+ obj*] The bad weather *thinned* (out) the crowd a little. • He plans to *thin* (out) the young carrots in the garden. [=to remove some of them so that there is more room between the remaining carrots] **b** [*+ obj*] : to make (a liquid) less thick by adding water or some other liquid to it • He added a little more water to *thin* the gravy. **c** [*no obj*] of a person's hair : to become less thick as more hairs fall out over time • His hair is *thinning*. = He has *thinning* hair. **d** [*no obj*] of fog, smoke, etc. : to become easier to see through : to become less thick or dense • The haze *thinned* in the late afternoon. **e** : to become less fat or to make (someone) less fat [*no obj*] — usually *+ down* • She's *thinned down* a lot in the past year. [*+ obj*] His face has been *thinned* by illness.

thin *adv* **thin-ner; -nest** [*also more ~; most ~*] : in a way that makes thin pieces, layers, etc. • She sliced the cheese *thin*.

thine /'ðain/ *pronoun, old-fashioned + literary* : **YOURS** • May God's blessings be *thine*.

thine *adj, old-fashioned + literary* : **YOUR** — used before words beginning with a vowel or an "h" • "Give every man *thine* ear, but few thy voice..." —Shakespeare, *Hamlet* (1600)

thing /'θɪŋ/ *noun, pl things*

1 [count] **a** : an object whose name is not known or stated • What is that *thing* on the floor? • That *thing* is loud. • He is good at making *things* out of clay. **b** : an object, animal, quality, etc., of any kind • My doctor told me to avoid fatty *things* like donuts and potato chips. • We must respect all living *things*. • She loves all *things* chocolate. [=she loves anything made out of chocolate] • Her voice is a *thing* of great beauty. [=her voice is very beautiful] • The disease is said to be *a thing of the past*. [=the disease no longer exists] • The drawer has pens, paper clips, *and things (like that)*. **c** : a particular event, occurrence, or situation • Birth is a miraculous *thing*. • It was the worst *thing* that could have happened. • That sunset was the most beautiful *thing* I have ever seen. •

Let's just forget about the whole *thing* and move on. • The one *thing* I hate most is being lied to. • It's *a good thing* (that) no one was injured. • Becoming friends with your boss is *not a bad thing*. = Becoming friends with your boss is *no bad thing*. [=becoming friends with your boss could have good results]

2 things [plural] : objects that belong to a person : personal possessions or belongings • Are all your *things* packed? • I need a place to store my *things*. • The children's *things* are always lying around on the floor. • When she realized she was late for work, she quickly put on her *things* [=she put on her clothes, shoes, etc.] and left.

3 things [plural] : objects that are used for a particular activity • Put the cleaning *things* away when you are done. • She got out the cooking *things* to bake some cookies.

4 [count] : an action that is done, that will be done, or that needs to be done • I have many *things* to do today. = I have lots of *things* that need to get done today. • There are a few *things* we still have to deal with. • There is actually one *thing* you can do to help. • Let's get this *thing* over with quickly. • That was a mean/cruel/kind/generous/thoughtful *thing* to do. • They expect great *things* from her. [=they expect her to be very successful] • The boy did *the right thing* and gave back the toy he took. • It's *no easy thing* [=it's not easy] to raise three children by yourself. • Cathy and I hit it off on our first date. *One thing led to another*, and pretty soon we were engaged. — sometimes used to say that one action is more serious, difficult, or important than another. • It is one *thing* to say you're sorry but (it is) another (*thing*) to actually mean it. • Planning a project is one *thing*; doing it is another.

5 [count] **a** : an activity • What *things* do you like to do in your spare time? • I like hiking, biking—that sort of *thing*. • The students are allowed to *do their own thing*. [=do the activities that they want to do] • Just *do your thing* [=do what you usually do] and pretend I'm not here. **b informal** : an activity that is done by a particular group of people • They spent the evening doing guy *things*. [=doing the kind of things that guys/men tend to like doing] • You wouldn't understand, Dad. It's a girl *thing*. **c US, informal** : an activity and everything that is related to it — usually singular • He tried the college *thing* [=he tried going to college] but dropped out after the first semester. • She's done with the whole rebellious teenager *thing*. [=she's done being a rebellious teenager] **d informal** : an activity that someone enjoys or does well — usually singular • Ballroom dancing is his *thing*, not mine. • It's not really my (kind of) *thing*.

6 things [plural] : the conditions that exist at a particular time and in a particular place • *Things* are improving. [=the situation is improving] • How are *things* with the new baby? • You're just making *things* more difficult for yourself. • As *things* stand now [=in the current situation], we can't afford a new car. • An apology would not change *things* between us. • *All things considered* [=overall; when you think about everything that happened], the party went very well.

7 [count] : a fact or piece of information about something or someone • He checks every little *thing*. [=detail] • There are a lot of *things* you don't know about us. • The *thing* I don't understand is why the car costs so much. • When buying a car, price and performance are important *things* to consider. • There is one more *thing* I'd like to ask you. • Several *things* were discussed at the meeting. • I'll give you a couple of days to *think things over*. [=to think about the situation and make a decision] • We are always arguing, but *the (funny) thing is*, I think I love him. • *The thing is* that [=it is important to understand that] you can never predict who will win. • I make excellent chili. *The thing is* to pick the right peppers. [=to make excellent chili, you need to pick the right peppers] • *The thing with/about* him [=an important characteristic to know about him] is that he is not reliable.

8 [count] : a thought, idea, or opinion • He just says the first *thing* that pops into his mind. • Don't say *things* you might regret later. • That was a terrible *thing* to say. • He had some interesting *things* to suggest. • She always knows the right *thing* to say.

9 [singular] : a reason for something • I can't stand being around him. *For one thing*, he smokes. For another, he's rude. • OK, *here's the thing*. I don't have enough money to go to college. • I'm sorry I didn't call you. *The thing is*, I've been really busy with work and school. • *The thing is that* I haven't had time to call you.

10 [singular] **a** : a goal or purpose • The *thing* is to get well, and then you can think about playing again. **b** : a way of reaching or achieving a goal • There is only one *thing* left for

us to do: fight back! • (Brit) *There's only one thing for it: we must fight.*

11 [count] *informal* — used for a person, animal, or object that causes strong feelings of affection or dislike in you • You poor *thing*, you must be freezing. • She's a pretty little *thing*, isn't she! • Get that dirty *thing* out of my house!

12 [count] *informal* : a strong feeling of liking or disliking something or someone — usually singular; used with *have* • She *has a thing* about snakes. [=she's afraid of snakes] • He has always *had this thing* with flying. • My teacher *had this/a thing* against me. [=my teacher disliked me for some unknown reason] • He *has a thing* for [=he likes] women with red hair.

13 *the thing* **a** : the item that is the most fashionable or popular • Long skirts are *the thing* to wear this season. • It's *the* newest/latest *thing* in fashion. **b** : the fashionable or proper way of behaving, talking, or dressing • It's *the thing* this year to buy products made from recycled materials. • Wearing athletic shoes with a suit is not quite *the thing*.

all/other things being equal formal — used to say what should happen or be true if two situations, products, etc., are different in a specified way but not in other ways • *All things being equal*, a person with a PhD should be getting a higher salary than someone with only a Master's degree.

all things to all people/men : a person or thing that makes all people happy by giving them what they want or need • It was clear that the senator was trying to be *all things to all people* in her campaign. • The museum is *all things to all people*, young and old.

amount to the same thing ♦ If two or more things *amount to the same thing*, there is very little difference between them. • "Lying and cheating *amount to the same thing*," she said.

a thing : ANYTHING — used in negative statements • I can't see *a thing* [=I can see nothing] without my glasses on. • The guests will be here soon, and I don't have *a thing* (that is appropriate) to wear. • Don't worry about *a thing*. I'll take care of everything. • I can't do *a thing* to stop them! • I got there early so I wouldn't miss *a thing*. • The police couldn't get *a thing* out of him. • She refused to tell me *a thing* about it. • I haven't heard *a thing* from him since graduation. • We haven't had *a thing* to eat all day. • Forget what he said—it *doesn't mean a thing*. [=it has no meaning or importance; it's not true] • None of this will *mean a thing* if we lose. • She doesn't look *a thing like* [=anything like] her older sister. • His new album doesn't sound *a thing like* his last one. [=his new album sounds nothing like his old one]

a thing or two informal : some useful information • I know *a thing or two* about cars. • When it comes to cooking, she could teach you *a thing or two*.

at the center of things see ¹CENTER

be hearing things see HEAR

chance would be a fine thing see ¹CHANCE

first thing see ¹FIRST

first things first see ¹FIRST

have another thing coming informal — used to say that someone is wrong or mistaken • If he thinks he can fool me, he *has another thing coming*.

just the thing : the thing that is most likely to be helpful • Chicken soup is *just the thing* for a cold. • I know *just the thing* to cheer you up—ice cream! • He always does/says *just the right thing* to make me feel better.

last thing see ²LAST

make a big thing informal ♦ If you *make a big thing* (out) of (something) or *make a big thing* about (something), you act as if something is very important or serious when it is not. • It was a minor error, but she *made a big thing* out of it. • Don't *make such a big thing* about missing the bus: there'll be another one along in a minute.

no such thing **1** — used to say that a particular person, object, etc., does not really exist • A perfect person? *There's no such thing*. — often + *as* • There is *no such thing as* a unicorn. • There is *no such thing as* bad publicity. All publicity is good. **2** — used to say that you did not say or do something that someone believes or says you did • "Why did you invite her?" "I did *no such thing*. She just showed up." • "He said that you're not going with us." "I said *no such thing*."

of all things — used to emphasize that the thing you are referring to is the thing you would least expect • The coach is making the entire football team take, *of all things*, ballet classes.

one of those things informal — used to refer to a bad or unfortunate experience that happened and to say that such experiences happen to everyone • I missed the train and had to take a later one. It was just *one of those things*, I guess.

one thing after another — used to complain about the large number of bad or unfortunate events that happen to someone • It's *one thing after another* with him. Now he's in jail for drunk driving. • First I locked my keys in the car, and then I spilled coffee all over myself. It was just *one thing after another* today!

push things see ¹PUSH

see things see ¹SEE

sure thing see ¹SURE

the real thing : something that is genuine and not a copy or imitation : something that is truly valuable or important • The diamond turned out to be *the real thing*. • a substitute for *the real thing* • You've done very well in your training. Let's just hope you're ready for *the real thing*.

(what) with one thing and another informal — used to say that you have been very busy doing or dealing with many things • *What with one thing and another*, I have very little free time.

thing·am·a·bob /'θɪŋəmə,bɑ:b/ *noun*, *pl* -bobs [count] *informal* : THINGAMAJIG

thing·am·a·jig or **thing·um·a·jig** /'θɪŋəmə,dʒɪg/ *noun*, *pl* -jigs [count] *informal* : something whose name you have forgotten or do not know • It's one of those *thingamajigs* that can give you driving directions.

thing·um·my /'θɪŋəmi/ *noun*, *pl* -mies [count] *chiefly Brit, informal* : THINGAMAJIG

thingy /'θɪŋi/ *noun*, *pl* **thing·ies** [count] *informal* : THINGAMAJIG • She was wearing one of those hair *thingies*.

¹think /'θɪŋk/ *verb* **thinks**; **thought** /'θɔ:t/; **think·ing**

1 : to believe that something is true, that a particular situation exists, that something will happen, etc. [+ *obj*] — often + *that* • I *thought* (*that*) I heard your voice. • She *thinks* (*that*) she knows the answer. • I *think* (*that*) you can do it. • We didn't *think* [=expect] (*that*) we would have any trouble. • Did you really/honestly *think* (*that*) I would agree with you? • I never *thought* (*that*) I would become a teacher. • Who would have *thought* (*that*) we would meet each other here? • He never *thought* (*that*) she would leave him. • I hate to *think* (*that*) we will never see each other again. • It was once *thought* (*that*) the Earth was flat. = The Earth was once *thought* to be flat. • He is *thought* to have drowned. • "Has she accepted the job?" "I (*don't*) *think* so." • Am I right *in think·ing* (*that*) you used to work there? • "I can beat you." "*That's what you think*." [=you might believe that you can beat me, but you're wrong] • "Where is he?" "He's still at home." "*I thought as much*." [=I thought he was still at home] • Well, yes. I *should think* so. • You *would think* (*that*) the school would have dictionaries in the classrooms. [=the school should have dictionaries in the classroom] • \$50 is enough, I *would have thought*. [*no obj*] It's going to be much more difficult than they *think*. [=suspect, expect] • We may finish sooner than you *think*.

2 : to have an opinion about someone or something [+ *obj*] It's hot in here, don't you *think*? [=don't you agree?] • People *think* he is one of the greatest jazz musicians of all time. = He is *thought* to be one of the greatest jazz musicians of all time. • I *think* he should apologize. = I *should/would think* he would apologize. • Is this a good use of our tax dollars? I *think not/so*. [=I don't/do believe that it is] • You should *think yourself* [=consider yourself] lucky/fortunate to have gotten off with only a warning! — often + *that* • I *thought* (*that*) the movie was excellent. • He *thinks* (*that*) he is a good writer. • Where do you *think* (*that*) we should eat? • Do you *think* (*that*) we should buy the house? • They *think* (*that*) it is unfair to have a rule like that. = They *think* it unfair to have a rule like that. [*no obj*] — + *about* or *of* • What did you *think about/of* the movie? [=did you like or dislike the movie?] • I told him exactly what I *thought of* him!

3 : to form or have (a particular thought) in your mind [+ *obj*] "He's handsome," she *thought* (to herself). • You should relax and try to *think* pleasant thoughts. • I was just *thinking* what it would be like to be a doctor. • I dread to *think* how he will react. • Why do you always *think the worst*? • *Just think* how nice it would be to live here. [*no obj*] *Just think*—in two days we'll be on vacation, lying on the beach. — usually + *about* or *of* • I was just *thinking about* you. • I was *thinking of* the time we rented that cabin in the mountains. • *Just think*

about how much money we'll save.

4 a : to use your mind to understand or decide something [no obj] *Think* before you answer the question. • The game teaches students how to *think*. • Let me *think*. Where did I see your car keys? • We *thought* long and hard about it before we reached our decision. • Don't disturb him: he's *thinking*. • You have to **think positive/positively** if you want to succeed. — often + *about* • The lecture gave the students a lot to *think about*. • I have *thought* very deeply *about* this problem, trying to find an answer. • *Think about* the offer. You might change your mind. • Do you ever *think about* what you are going to do after you graduate? • If/When you *think about* it, the argument does make sense. [+ obj] Give me a minute to *think* what to do. • He couldn't *think* where they would have gone. • You're awfully quiet. What are you *thinking*? • I can't believe he did that! What was he *thinking*? **b** [+ obj] : to have thoughts about (something) • She talks and *thinks* business all the time. • He is always *thinking* [=thinking about] money. **5** [+ obj] : to remember (something) • Can you *think* where you put it? • She was trying to *think* where she had heard that name before. — often followed by *to* + verb • Neither of us *thought to close* the garage door. • She never *thinks to call* home. • He never *thought to ask* how we are doing.

6 [+ obj] : to have thoughts about possibly doing (something) : to have the intention of doing (something) • I *think* I'll give him a call today.

7 [+ obj] **a** — used to make a statement or suggestion less definite • They used to live here, I *think*. [=I believe that they used to live here, although I'm not sure] • I *thought* maybe we could go for a walk in the park. • I was *thinking* we might have dinner together some time. **b** — used to politely ask someone to do something or give you something • *Do you think (that) you could give me a ride to the airport?* [=could you give me a ride to the airport?] • *Do you think I could borrow the car tonight, Dad?* **c** — used in questions that show anger or surprise about what someone has done or is doing • What do you *think* you're doing? I just said you couldn't have one. • Where do you *think* you're going? [=where are you going?] No one gave you permission to leave. • Who do you *think* you are, barging in here like that?

come to think of it see ¹COME

don't even think about (doing) it informal — used to tell someone in a forceful way that something is not allowed • It's illegal to park here. *Don't even think about it!*

not think anything of : to not think of (something) as being important or unusual • I *didn't think anything of* it at the time—but it turned out to be the clue that would solve the case. • I *didn't think anything of* his wearing a long coat since it was cold outside.

not think much of : to not like (someone or something) very much • They *didn't think much of* my idea. • Though the singer was very popular, she *didn't think much of* him.

think again informal — used to say that what someone believes; expects, etc., is not true or will not happen • If you think you can get away with this, *think again*. [=you are wrong]

think ahead : to prepare for a future event or situation by thinking about what might happen • We should have *thought ahead* and brought an umbrella.

think aloud or think out loud : to say your thoughts so that other people can hear them • No, I wasn't talking to you. I was just *thinking out loud*.

think back [phrasal verb] : to think about something that happened in the past — often + *to* • *Thinking back to* my childhood, I remember summers at the beach. • *Think back to* that night. What were you doing?

think better of : to decide not to do (something) after thinking further about it • She was going to make a comment but *thought better of* it.

think big see ²BIG

think fit see ¹FIT

think for yourself : to form opinions and make decisions without help from other people • Don't let others tell you what to believe. You need to learn to *think for yourself*.

think less of : to not respect (someone) as much as you did before : to have a worse opinion of (someone) • I hope you don't *think (any) less of* me now that you know about the trouble I got into when I was younger.

think nothing of **1** : to not hesitate at all about (doing something that other people think is very difficult or dangerous) • She *thinks nothing of* running 10 miles. **2** **think nothing of it** — used as a polite response when someone has apologized to you or thanked you • "Thanks for the

ride." "Think nothing of it—I was going in this direction anyway." • "I'm so sorry." "It's all right. *Think nothing of it.*"

think of [phrasal verb] **1** **think of (something)** **a** : to have thoughts about possibly doing (something) • She is *thinking of* applying to grad school. • He *thought of* sending an e-mail but decided against it. • She couldn't *think of* ever leaving her children. **b** : to use your mind to form or invent (something) • The best plan they could *think of* was to leave. • "Can you give me an example?" "I'll *think of* something." • I can't *think of* one reason why you shouldn't do it. • Cell phones that can access the Internet and take pictures—what will they *think of* next? **c** : to remember (something) • I can *think of* plenty of other times when you were wrong. • I can't *think of* her name at the moment. • I just *thought of* a good joke. • She *thought of* her old home when she saw the picture. **2** **think of (someone or something)** **a** : to have a particular kind of opinion about (someone or something) • The hiring committee *thought highly of* her. [=had a high opinion of her] • She *thinks a great deal of* her doctor. [=she likes/respects her doctor very much] • I wouldn't want you to *think badly of* me. • He *thinks the world of* his family. [=his family is very important to him] **b** : to form or have an idea about (someone or something) • People are *thinking of* her for president. [=are thinking that she should be the president] • Are you *thinking of* any place in particular? • I am *thinking of* a number between 1 and 10. • I'll be *thinking of* you in my prayers. • He *thinks of* them with great affection. **c** : to be concerned about (someone or something) when you make decisions about what to do • I must *think first of* my family. • You should *think of* your job security. • She is always *thinking of* the welfare of others. **3** **think of (someone or something) as (someone or something)** : to believe that (someone or something) is (a particular type of person or thing) or has (a particular quality) • He *thinks of* himself *as* a good writer. [=he thinks/believes that he is a good writer] • I *think of* you guys *as* my family. • Play can be *thought of as* a child's work since it is through play that children learn.

think out [phrasal verb] **think out (something) or think (something) out** : to think about (something, such as a problem) for a period of time in an effort to find a solution, make a decision, etc. • He spent hours *thinking out* the solution to the physics problem. • I need time to *think things out*. • The details of the contract have been carefully *thought out*. • Your argument is well *thought out*.

think outside the box see ¹BOX

think over [phrasal verb] **think (something) over or think over (something)** : to think about (something) for a period of time especially in an effort to understand or make a decision about it • I'll give you time to *think* the matter *over*. • *Think it over*, and let me know what you decide. • I've *thought over* what you said, and you're right.

think through [phrasal verb] **think (something) through or think through (something)** : to think about all the different parts or effects of (something) for a period of time especially in an effort to understand or make a decision about it • I need time to *think this through*. • We have *thought through* the matter and have come to a decision.

think twice informal : to think seriously about whether you really want to do something before you do it • I'd *think twice* about/before doing that if I were you.

think up [phrasal verb] **think up (something) or think (something) up informal** : to use your mind to form or invent (something) • Quick! We have to *think up* an excuse. • They *thought up* a new way of raising money for charity.

to think — used to express surprise or shock • *To think* (that) he lied to you! • *To think*, all we needed to do was to wait a few more days.

²think noun [singular] chiefly Brit, informal : an act of thinking about something • I'd *have another think about* doing that if I were you. • Feel free to *have a good think about* it before you say yes.

have another think coming informal — used to say that someone is wrong or mistaken • If he thinks he can fool me, he *has another think coming*. [=he's wrong; he can't fool me]

think-able /'θɪŋkəbəl/ adj, not used before a noun : capable of being thought about and done • They divorced during a time when that was barely *thinkable*. — opposite UNTHINK-ABLE

think-er /'θɪŋkə/ noun, pl -ers [count]

1 : a person who thinks in a specified way • an original/quick *thinker*

2 : a person who studies ideas about knowledge, truth, etc. : PHILOSOPHER • He was one of the great *thinkers* of his time.

1 *thinking* /'θɪŋkɪŋ/ *noun* [noncount]

1 : the action of using your mind to produce ideas, decisions, memories, etc. : the activity of thinking about something • Form your own opinions; don't let others do your *thinking* for you! • I've been doing some *thinking* about this, and I don't think you're right after all. • The school's curriculum encourages independent *thinking*. • A piece of quick *thinking* got us out of trouble. • What was the *thinking* [=reasoning] behind their decision? — see also LATERAL THINKING, WISHFUL THINKING

2 : opinion or judgment • It is, to my (way of) *thinking*, complete nonsense. • I'd like to know your *thinking* on this.

3 : a way of thinking that is characteristic of a particular group, time period, etc. • What is the current *thinking* on the subject? • Western/Eastern *thinking*

2 *thinking* *adj.*, always used before a noun : able to think intelligently about complicated things • *thinking* citizens • Chess is a *thinking* man's game.

thinking cap *noun*, *pl* ~ **caps** [count] *informal* — used to refer to the act of trying to solve a problem by thinking carefully about it • The students weren't wearing their *thinking caps* this morning. [=they weren't thinking very well] • It's time to *put your thinking cap on*. [=it's time to start trying to think of what should be done]

think tank *noun*, *pl* ~ **tanks** [count] : an organization that consists of a group of people who think of new ideas on a particular subject or who give advice about what should be done — called also (US) *think factory*

thin·ly /'θɪnli/ *adv* [more ~; most ~]

1 : in a way that makes thin pieces, layers, etc. • *thinly* sliced carrots • The table was *thinly* coated/covered/layered in dust.

2 : with very few people or things close together • a *thinly* populated area • a area *thinly* planted with trees

3 : in a weak way that does not seem sincere • He smiled *thinly*.

4 : in a way that does not completely hide something • The book is a *thinly* disguised autobiography. • *thinly* veiled criticism

thin·ner /'θɪnə/ *noun*, *pl* -**ners** [count] : a liquid (such as turpentine) that is added to paint to make it thinner and able to flow more easily

thin-skinned /'θɪn,skɪnd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : having a thin skin • a *thin-skinned* fruit

2 : easily bothered by criticism or insults : very sensitive • He's too *thin-skinned* for a career in show business. — opposite THICK-SKINNED

1 *third* /'θɜːd/ *adj.*, always used before a noun

1 **a** : occupying the number three position in a series • We sat in the *third* row. • the *third* house on the left • the author's *third* novel • C is the *third* letter in the alphabet. • That's the *third* time I've seen him today. • The office is on the *third* floor. **b** : next to the second in importance or rank • I won *third* prize. • Do you have a *third* choice?

2 : equal in size, value, amount, etc., to one third of something • a *third* share in the profits • a *third* pound of cheese

3 : used to refer to the third forward gear or speed of a vehicle • shift into *third* gear

the third time is the charm (US) or *Brit third time lucky* — used to say that two efforts at something have already failed but perhaps the third will be successful

— **third** *adv* • She finished *third* in the race. • the *third* highest mountain

2 *third* *noun*, *pl* **thirds**

1 [singular] : something that is third : the third thing in a series • We arrived on the *third* of October. [=on October 3] • The win was his *third* of the year.

2 [count] : one of three equal parts of something • a *third* of the pie • Rent costs two-*thirds* of my paycheck. • She divided the cookie into *thirds*.

3 [noncount] : the third forward gear or speed of a vehicle • He shifted to/into *third*.

4 [noncount] *baseball* : THIRD BASE • He stole *third*. • There's a runner on *third*.

5 [count] *Brit* : an undergraduate degree of the lowest level from a British university • He took/received a *third* in history.

third base *noun* [singular] *baseball* : the base that must be touched third by a base runner • a runner on *third base*; also : the position of the player who defends the area near third base • She plays *third base*. — compare FIRST BASE, HOME PLATE, SECOND BASE

third baseman *noun*, *pl* ~ -**men** [count] *baseball* : the player who defends the area near third base : the fielder who plays third base

third class *noun*

1 [noncount] **a** : the level of service on a train, ship, etc., that is the cheapest • seats in *third class* **b** : a class of mail in the U.S. that includes advertisements

2 [singular] *Brit* : an undergraduate degree of the lowest level given by a British university • She got a *third class* in English.

third-class *adj* : of or relating to third class • We'll be traveling in the *third-class* cabin. • (US) *third-class* mail

— **third-class** *adv* • travel *third-class*

third degree *noun*

the third degree informal : a long and intense period of questioning • The police gave him *the third degree*. [=they questioned him intensely] • He got *the third degree*. • Mom gave me *the third degree* when I got home late.

third-degree *adj.*, always used before a noun

1 US, of a crime : of the least serious level : deserving the mildest punishment • *third-degree* murder/theft/arson

2 : causing severe injury • He suffered *third-degree* burns and may not survive. — compare FIRST-DEGREE, SECOND-DEGREE

third·ly /'θɜːdli/ *adv* — used to introduce a statement that is the third statement in a series • *Thirdly*, a dictionary provides examples of usage. — compare FIRSTLY, SECONDLY

third party *noun*, *pl* ~ -**ties** [count] *law* : someone who is not one of the two main people involved in a legal agreement but who is still affected by it in some way

third-party *adj.*, always used before a noun, *law* : of, relating to, or involving insurance that pays money to someone who is harmed by your actions • a *third-party* policy • *third-party* insurance

third person *noun* [noncount]

1 *grammar* : a set of words or forms (such as pronouns or verb forms) that refer to people or things that the speaker or writer is not addressing directly — often used before another noun • "He," "she," and "it" are *third person* pronouns.

2 : a writing style that uses third person pronouns and verbs • a story written in the *third person* — compare FIRST PERSON, SECOND PERSON

third rail *noun* [singular]

1 : a metal rail on a train track that carries electric current to the train's motor

2 : a difficult issue that politicians try to avoid talking about • Social Security is the *third rail* of American politics.

third-rate *adj* : of very low quality • a *third-rate* writer • *third-rate* work • The meal was *third-rate*.

third world or **Third World** *noun* [singular] *sometimes offensive* : the countries of the world that are very poor and that have very few industries : the poor nations of the world — often used before another noun • *Third World* nations — compare FIRST WORLD

1 *thirst* /'θɜːst/ *noun*

1 **a** : an uncomfortable feeling that is caused by the need for something to drink [noncount] He quenched his *thirst*. [=he had a drink] [singular] a powerful *thirst* **b** [noncount] : a very great need for something to drink • He died of/from *thirst* [=he died because he did not have enough fluids in his body]

2 [singular] *literary* : a strong desire for something • a *thirst* for fame/knowledge/success — compare HUNGER

2 *thirst* *verb* **thirsts**; **thirst-ed**; **thirst-ing** [no obj] *literary* : to have or feel a strong desire — usually + after or for • She *thirsts* for/after justice. — compare HUNGER

thirsty /'θɜːsti/ *adj* **thirst-i-er**; -**est**

1 **a** : having an uncomfortable feeling because you need something to drink : feeling thirst • a *thirsty* child • The salty food was making her *thirsty*. **b** : needing water • *thirsty* land/plants

2 *not used before a noun, literary* : feeling a strong desire or need for something • *thirsty* for knowledge

— **thirst-i-ly** /'θɜːstəli/ *adv* • She drank *thirstily*.

thir·teen /,θɜː'ti:n/ *noun*, *pl* -**teens** [count] : the number 13 — **thirteen** *adj* • *thirteen* students — **thirteen** *pronoun* • All *thirteen* (of them) passed the exam. — **thirteenth**

/ˈθɜːtiːnθ/ *noun*, *pl* -teenths [count] • the *thirteenth* of October • one *thirteenth* of the budget — **thirteenth** *adj* • the *thirteenth* caller — **thirteenth** *adv* • She finished *thirteenth*. • the nation's *thirteenth* largest city

thir·ty /ˈθɜːti/ *noun*, *pl* -ties

1 [count] : the number 30

2 **thirties** [plural] **a** : the numbers ranging from 30 to 39 • The temperature outside is in the high *thirties*. **b** : a set of years ending in digits ranging from 30 to 39 • He is in his *thirties*. • old photographs from the *thirties* [=from 1930–1939]

— **thir·ti·eth** /ˈθɜːtiəθ/ *noun*, *pl* -tieths [count] • the *thirtieth* of November • seven *thirtieths* of a degree — **thirtieth** *adj* • her *thirtieth* birthday — **thirty** *adj* • *thirty* days/dollars — **thirty** *pronoun* • *thirty* of his classmates — **thir·ty·ish** /ˈθɜːtiʃ/ *adj* • He was tall, *thirtyish* [=about 30 years old], and had glasses and brown hair.

thir·ty·some·thing /ˈθɜːti,samθɪŋ/ *noun*, *pl* -things

[count] *informal* : a person who is between 30 and 39 years old • a TV show about a group of *thirtysomethings*

— **thirtysomething** *adj* • *thirtysomething* parents

¹this /ˈðɪs, ðəs/ *pronoun*, *pl* **these** /ˈðiːz/

1 [count] : the person, thing, or idea that is present or near in place, time, or thought or that has just been mentioned • *This* is my favorite T-shirt. • *These* are my friends. • Anything would be better than *this*. • “What’s *this* right/over here?” “It’s a very rare gold coin.” • Would you take a look at *this*, please? • All of *this* is mine. • *This* is the most fun I’ve had in years! • “It will be difficult.” “*This* is true.” • What is the meaning of *this*?

usage When asking who you are speaking to on the phone, you use the pronouns *this* in U.S. English and *that* in British English. • (US) Hello. Is *this* John? = (Brit) Hello. Is *that* John?

2 [count] : the thing that is closest to you or that is being shown to you • *This* is silver and that is gold. • *This* is my jacket and that’s yours. • Those sunglasses are nice, but I like *these* better. • *This* is how you’re supposed to do it.

3 [singular] : the present time • We expected you to return before *this*. • *This* is your last chance to ask questions before the test.

4 [singular] : the following idea : what is stated in the following sentence or phrase • I can only say *this*: it wasn’t here yesterday. • How about *this*: you stay here while I go to the store? • It’s as easy as *this*: turn left at the first intersection and go straight. • If you think that’s funny, wait until you hear *this*! [=I will tell you another thing that is even funnier] • *What’s this* I hear about you getting engaged? [=I heard that you got engaged. Is it true?] • *What’s all this* about the Earth getting warmer?

like this see ³LIKE

this and that also chiefly Brit *this, that, and the other informal* : several different things • We started talking about *this and that*, and before we knew it, it had gotten late. • “What have you been doing all day?” “Oh, a little bit of *this and that*.”

this is it — used to say that a very important thing is about to be done, a very important event is about to happen, etc. • *This is it*, men. Let’s take home the championship! • As the car skidded out of control, I thought, “*This is it*. I’m going to die.”

²this *adj*, always used before a noun *pl* **these**

1 — used to indicate the person, thing, or idea that is present or near in place, time, or thought or that has just been mentioned • Out of all my T-shirts, *this* one is my favorite. • *This* cake is delicious. • *These* books are hers. • How much does *this* necklace cost? • Do you take *this* man to be your lawfully wedded husband? • I’m not sure I understand *this* theory of yours. • Who’s *this* Mrs. Jones on your list? • *These* dogs require a lot of exercise. • *This* kind of behavior will not be tolerated in the classroom. • Let’s try to do a better job *this* time. • By *this* point in the trip, everyone was getting tired. • It’s happening at *this* very moment. • While her earlier poems are light and optimistic, *these* ones are sad and depressing. • Get back here *this instant/minute/second*! [=immediately, now] • *To this day* [=still] no one knows what really happened. • The problem usually goes away on its own, but *in this case* you may need to see a doctor. • *In this regard/respect*, the two books are very similar.

2 — used to indicate the thing that is closest to you or that is being shown to you • *This* jacket’s mine and that’s yours. • Would you prefer *this* one or that one? • I like *these* sunglasses better than those (over there). • Don’t do it that way. Do it

this way. • They said to go that way, but I think we should go *this way*. • Step *this way*, ladies and gentlemen: the show is about to begin. • She twisted it *this way* and that way.

3 — used to indicate the present period of time or a period of time that is near the present time • How are you feeling *this morning*? • Not much has been happening in the news *this week*. • We’re planning to take a trip to New York *this summer*. • Is she coming home *this week* or next (week)? • The snow started early *this morning*. • *These* years have been particularly difficult for our family. • You’re just friends with him? *All this time* I thought you were dating him. • She’ll return *this coming Friday*. = She’ll return *this Friday*. [=she’ll return on the Friday of this week] • She left *this past* [=last] Monday. • I spoke to him on the phone just *this past week-end*. [=the weekend that just took place] • It’s hard to find good help *these days*.

4 : stated in the following sentence or phrase • How about *this idea*: you stay here while I go to the store? • What’s *this nonsense* (I hear) about you quitting?

5 — used to introduce someone or something that has not been mentioned yet • We both had *this* sudden urge to go shopping. ✧ This sense of *this* is often used to produce excitement when telling a story. • I was walking down the street when *this* dog starts chasing me. [=when a dog started chasing me] • Then *these* two guys come/came in and start asking her questions.

³this /ˈðɪs/ *adv*

1 : to the degree or extent that is suggested in the present situation • We’ve waited *this long* for the pizza, we might as well stay until it’s ready. — often used in negative statements • I haven’t had *this much* fun in ages! • They didn’t expect *this many* people to come to the party. • She’s never been *this far* away from home.

2 : to the degree or extent indicated by a gesture • He’s about *this tall*. • I need a nail about *this long*.

this·tle /ˈθɪsəl/ *noun*, *pl* **this·tles** [count] : a wild plant that has sharp points on its leaves and purple, yellow, or white flowers

this·tle·down /ˈθɪsəl,daʊn/ *noun* [noncount] : the light parts of thistle flowers that contain the seeds and that blow away in the wind

thith·er /ˈθɪðə/ *adv*, *old-fashioned + literary* : to that place : THERE • traveling/wandering/running *hither and thither* [=here and there]

thong /ˈθɔːŋ/ *noun*, *pl* **thongs** [count]

1 : a long thin strip of material (such as leather) that is used to attach something

2 : a kind of women’s underpants that has only a thin strip of material in the back

3 US : ¹FLIP-FLOP 1

tho·rax /ˈθoʊrəks/ *noun*, *pl* **tho·rax-es** or **tho·ra·ces** /ˈθoʊrə,sɪːz/ [count] *technical*

1 : the part of an animal’s body between the neck and the waist

2 : the middle section of an insect’s body

— **tho·rac·ic** /θəˈræsɪk/ *adj* • the *thoracic* cavity

thorn /ˈθoʊn/ *noun*, *pl* **thorns** [count]

1 : a sharp point on the stem of some plants (such as roses) — see color picture on page C6

2 Brit : a tree or bush that has thorns

a *thorn in the/your flesh/side* : a person or thing that repeatedly annoys you or causes problems for you • He’s been a *thorn in my side* for years. • a *thorn in the side* of the industry

— **thorned** /ˈθoʊnd/ *adj* — **thorn·less** /ˈθoʊnləs/ *adj*

thorny /ˈθoʊni/ *adj* **thorn·i·er**; **-est** [also more ~; most ~]

1 : having a lot of thorns • *thorny* bushes

2 : very difficult or complicated • a *thorny* issue/problem/question

— **thorn·i·ness** *noun* [noncount]

thor·ough /ˈθɔːrʊ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : including every possible part or detail • a *thorough* investigation/search • a *thorough* [=complete] examination • a *thorough* understanding of the rules and regulations

2 : careful about doing something in an accurate and exact way : METICULOUS • a *thorough* worker • The investigator will have to be *thorough*.

3 *always used before a noun, chiefly Brit* : complete or absolute • a *thorough* disgrace • a *thorough* mess/nuisance

— **thor·ough·ly** *adv* [more ~; most ~] • You’ve *thoroughly* [=completely] messed things up. • I *thoroughly* enjoyed the performance. • He studied the proposal very *thoroughly*. •

That's been *thoroughly* documented/proven. — **thorough-ness** *noun* [noncount]

thor-ough-bred /'θərə,bred/ *noun*, *pl* -breds [count]

1 : an animal (especially a horse) whose parents are from the same breed

2 **Thoroughbred** : a type of fast horse used mainly for racing

— **thoroughbred** *adj* • *thoroughbred* [=purebred] dogs • *Thoroughbred* horses

thor-ough-fare /'θərə,feə/ *noun*, *pl* -fares [count] : a main road

thor-ough-go-ing /,θərə'gɔwɪŋ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : including every possible detail : very thorough or complete • a *thoroughgoing* analysis • *thoroughgoing* changes

those *plural of THAT*

¹**thou** /'ðau/ *pronoun*, *old-fashioned* + *literary* — used as a singular form of “you” when it is the subject of a verb • “*Thou* shalt have no other gods before me.” —Exodus 20:3 (KJV)

²**thou** /'θau/ *noun*, *pl* **thou** [count] *US*, *informal* : a thousand dollars • She earns more than a hundred *thou* a year.

¹**though** /'ðou/ *conj* : **ALTHOUGH** • *Though* it was raining, we went hiking • She seemed healthy, *though* (she is) thin. • That's possible, *though* (it is) not likely.

as though see ²AS

even though see ²EVEN

²**though** *adv* — used when you are saying something that is different from or contrasts with a previous statement • She was happy. Not for long, *though*. [=however] • Inevitably, *though*, something will go wrong.

¹**thought** *past tense and past participle of* ¹THINK

²**thought** /'θɑ:t/ *noun*, *pl* **thoughts**

1 [count] : an idea, plan, opinion, picture, etc., that is formed in your mind : something that you think of • My first *thought* was that something must have changed. • She had a sudden *thought*. = A sudden *thought* occurred to her. • The *thought* of leaving never crossed my mind. • Do you have any *thoughts* about/on the subject? • She abandoned all *thoughts* of going home. • It was just a *thought*. • That's a good *thought*. — see also **SECOND THOUGHT**

2 **a** [noncount] : the act or process of thinking • She was lost/deep in *thought*. • She abandoned all *thought* of going home. • *thought patterns/processes* [=the way you think about things] **b** [noncount] : the act of carefully thinking about the details of something • I'll give the idea some *thought*. [=consideration] • They should have put more *thought* into the proposal. **c** [singular] : the act of thinking about the feelings or situations of other people • While you're enjoying the holidays, you should spare a *thought* for those who are less fortunate. • He has no *thought* for anyone but himself.

3 [noncount] : a way of thinking that is characteristic of a particular group, time period, etc. • Western *thought* • the mainstream *thought* on the subject • modern economic *thought* • There are two main *schools of thought* [=systems of thinking] on the topic.

(a) *penny for your thoughts* see **PENNY**

food for thought see **FOOD**

perish the thought see **PERISH**

thought-ful /'θɑ:tfəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : serious and quiet because you are thinking • She looked at me with a *thoughtful* expression. • He looked *thoughtful* for a moment.

2 : done or made after careful thinking • a *thoughtful* book/gift • pages of *thoughtful* criticism

3 : showing concern for the needs or feelings of other people : **CONSIDERATE** • a *thoughtful* gesture • Her husband is always *thoughtful*. • That's very *thoughtful* of you. — opposite **THOUGHTLESS**

— **thought-ful-ly** /'θɑ:tfəli/ *adv* • *thoughtfully* prepared • He looked at me *thoughtfully*. — **thought-ful-ness** *noun* [noncount]

thought-less /'θɑ:tləs/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not showing concern for the needs or feelings of other people : **INCONSIDERATE** • *thoughtless* behavior • *thoughtless* comments • a selfish and *thoughtless* person — opposite **THOUGHTFUL**

— **thought-less-ly** *adv* • “That's stupid,” he said *thoughtlessly*. — **thought-less-ness** *noun* [noncount]

thought-provoking *adj* [more ~; most ~] : causing people to think seriously about something • a *thought-provoking* article/book/film

thou-sand /'θauzənd/ *noun*, *pl* -sands

1 *pl* **thousand** [count] : the number 1,000 • a/one *thousand* (of them) • a *thousand* and one = one *thousand* and one =

(chiefly *US*) a *thousand* one [=1,001] • two *thousand* (of them)

2 **thousands** [plural] : an amount that is more than 2,000 • *Thousands* (and *thousands*) of people visited the shrine.

3 [count] : a very large number — usually plural • I've done this *thousands* of times. [=many times]

a *picture is worth a thousand words* see ¹WORTH

bat a *thousand* see ²BAT

never/not in a *thousand years* see **YEAR**

— **thousand** *adj*, always used before a *noun* • a *thousand* miles [=1,000 miles] • a *thousand* dollars/years/times

— **thousands** *pronoun* • *Thousands* protested the convention. — **thou-sandth** /'θauzəndθ/ *noun*, *pl* -sandths [count] • a/one *thousandth* of a second = one one-*thousandths* of a second [=1/1000 second] — **thousandth** *adj* • the *thousandth* person to join

thousand island dressing *noun* [noncount] *chiefly US* : a creamy salad dressing that contains a mixture of finely chopped vegetables (such as pickles, peppers, and onions)

thrall /'θrɑ:l/ *noun*

in *thrall* *literary* : in a state of being controlled or strongly influenced by someone or something • He was completely in *thrall* to her. = He was completely in her *thrall*.

¹**thrash** /'θræʃ/ *verb* **thrash-es; thrashed; thrash-ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to hit (someone or something) very hard with a stick, whip, etc. • He *thrashed* me with his belt.

2 [+ *obj*] *informal* : to defeat (someone or something) very easily or completely • The team *thrashed* them last week.

3 [no *obj*] : to move about violently • Something was *thrashing* wildly in the water. • She *thrashed* around/about in her sleep.

thrash out [phrasal verb] **thrash** (something) out or **thrash out** (something) : to talk about (something) in order to make a decision, find a solution, etc. • They had a meeting to *thrash out* their problems. : to produce (something, such as an agreement or plan) by a lot of discussion • *thrash out* a plan

— **thrashing** /'θræʃɪŋ/ *noun*, *pl* -ings [count] • He gave the prisoner a *thrashing*. • (*informal*) Last week's game was a complete *thrashing*.

²**thrash** *noun*, *pl* **thrashes**

1 [noncount] : a type of rock music that is very fast and loud

2 [singular] : a violent movement • The shark swam away with a *thrash* of its tail.

3 [count] *Brit*, *informal* + *old-fashioned* : a party with loud music and dancing

¹**thread** /'θred/ *noun*, *pl* **threads**

1 : a long, thin piece of cotton, silk, etc., used for sewing [noncount] a spool of *thread* [count] A *thread* was hanging from the hem of her coat. — see picture at **SEWING**

2 [count] *literary* : a long, thin line of something — usually + of • A slender *thread* of smoke rose up from the chimney.

3 [count] : the raised line that winds around a screw

4 [singular] : an idea, feeling, etc., that connects the different parts of something (such as a story) • The stories share a common *thread*. • A *thread* of self-pity runs through his autobiography. • I lost the *thread* of the plot long before the story ended. • I found it hard to follow the *thread* of the conversation.

5 [count] *computers* : a series of related messages that are written on an Internet message board • If you want to discuss a different subject, you should start a new *thread*.

6 **threads** [plural] *US*, *informal* + *old-fashioned* : **CLOTHES** • nice *threads*

hang by a *thread* see ¹HANG

pick up the *threads* *informal* : to begin something again after a long time • I'm hoping to *pick up the threads* of our relationship.

— **thread-like** /'θred,ləɪk/ *adj* • a *threadlike* worm

²**thread** *verb* **threads; thread-ed; thread-ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to put a thread, string, rope, etc., through a hole in something • *thread* a needle • She *threaded* her shoelace through the holes. • *thread* a pipe with wire = *thread* a wire through a pipe

2 [+ *obj*] : to put (film or tape) into a movie camera, tape recorder, etc., so that it is ready to be used • *thread* film through a camera

3 : to move forward by turning and going through narrow spaces [+ *obj*] They had to *thread their way* through the crowd. [no *obj*] Waiters *threaded* through the crowd. • a river that *threads* through narrow valleys

4 [+ *obj*] : to put (something) on a thread : **STRING** • *thread* beads

— **thread·er** *noun*, *pl* **-ers** [*count*]

thread·bare /'θred,bæ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : very thin and in bad condition from too much use : SHABBY • a *threadbare* carpet/suit

2 : not very effective, interesting, etc., because of being used too often • a *threadbare* joke • the story's *threadbare* plot

threat /'θret/ *noun*, *pl* **threats**

1 : a statement saying you will be harmed if you do not do what someone wants you to do [*count*] He was willing to use violence and *threats* to get what he wanted. • She ignored their *threats* and continued to do what she felt was right. • bomb/death *threats* • He carried out his *threat*. [=he did the thing that he threatened to do] • She said she would leave him, but he knew it was an *idle/empty threat* [=he knew that she did not mean it] [*noncount*] an action done *under threat* [=done by someone who has been threatened with harm]

2 **a** [*count*] : someone or something that could cause trouble, harm, etc. — usually singular • The country is a great/major/serious *threat* to world peace. • He perceived the question as a *threat* to his authority. • These people are not a *threat* to the social order. • Their financial problems are a *threat* to their marriage. **b** : the possibility that something bad or harmful could happen [*count*] — usually singular • We can't ignore the *threat* posed by nuclear weapons. • The weather forecast calls for cloudy skies with a *threat* of rain. • There is a real *threat* of civil war. [*noncount*] a country *under threat* of civil war

threat·en /'θretn/ *verb* **-ens; -ened; -en·ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to say that you will harm someone or do something unpleasant or unwanted especially in order to make someone do what you want • The mugger *threatened* him with a gun. • He *threatened* to tell their boss. = He *threatened* that he would tell their boss. • She *threatened* to quit if they didn't give her a raise, but no one believed her. • He tried to get what he wanted by *threatening* people (with violence). • The workers have *threatened* to strike if their demands are not met. = The workers have *threatened* a strike if their demands are not met. • The kidnapper *threatened* to kill her. = The kidnapper *threatened her life*.

2 **a** : to be something that is likely to cause harm to (someone or something) : to be a threat to (someone or something) [+ *obj*] Civil war has been *threatening* the country for years. • a marriage *threatened* by financial problems • Overfishing *threatens* the survival of certain fish species. • She felt (emotionally) *threatened* by his friendships with female co-workers. [*no obj*] Disaster *threatens*. **b** — used to say that something bad or harmful appears likely or possible [+ *obj*] The clouds were *threatening* rain. [=the clouds made it appear that it was likely to rain] • The latest news *threatens* trouble for the economy. [*no obj*] It looks like it's *threatening* to rain. [=it looks like it may rain]

— **threat·en·ing** /'θretɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] • a *threatening* comment • *threatening* clouds • I find your competitiveness a little *threatening*. — **threat·en·ing·ly** /'θretɪŋli/ *adv* • The sky darkened *threateningly*.

three /'θri:/ *noun*, *pl* **threes**

1 [*count*] : the number 3

2 [*count*] : the third in a set or series • the *three* of hearts

3 [*noncount*] : three o'clock • "What time is it?" "It's *three*." • I leave each day at *three*.

in threes : in groups of three • You'll be working *in threes*.

three sheets to the wind see ²SHEET

two's company, three's a crowd see COMPANY

— **three** *adj* • *three* feet/dollars/weeks — **three** *pronoun* • I'll take *three*, please. • Seven students passed the test and *three* failed.

three·cornered *adj*

1 : having three corners • a *three-cornered* hat

2 : involving three people or groups • a *three-cornered* agreement

3-D /'θri:'di:/ *noun*

in 3-D : made in a way that causes an image to appear to be three-dimensional • The movie is *in 3-D*.

— **3-D** *adj* • a *3-D* painting

three·dimensional *adj*

1 : having or seeming to have length, width, and depth • a *three-dimensional* sculpture • a *three-dimensional* image

2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having different qualities that are like the qualities of a real person • The characters in the novel are very *three-dimensional*.

three·fold /'θri:'fould/ *adj*

1 : having three parts • a *threefold* purpose

2 : three times as great or as many • a *threefold* increase

— **three·fold** /'θri:'fould/ *adv* • Problems have increased *threefold*.

three·leg·ged race /'θri:'legəd-/ *noun*, *pl* ~ **aces** [*count*] : a race in which two people run together with one person's left leg tied to the other person's right leg

three·pence /'θrepəns/ *noun*, *pl* **threepence** or **three·penc·es** *Brit, old-fashioned*

1 [*count*] : a coin worth three pennies

2 [*noncount*] : the sum of three British pennies

three·pen·ny /'θrepəni/ *adj, always used before a noun, Brit, old-fashioned* : worth three British pennies • a *three-penny* bit/piece

three·piece suit *noun*, *pl* ~ **suits** [*count*] : a suit in which the jacket, vest, and pants are made of the same material — compare TWO-PIECE SUIT

three·piece suite *noun*, *pl* ~ **suites** [*count*] *Brit* : a set of furniture that consists of a sofa and two chairs covered in the same material

three·ply *adj* : having three layers or threads • *three-ply* paper

three·point line *noun* [*singular*] *basketball* : a curved line on a basketball court that is a set distance (such as 22 feet) from the basket and beyond which successful shots count for three points

three·point turn *noun*, *pl* ~ **turns** [*count*] : a way of turning a vehicle around in a small space by driving forward, then back, then forward again

three·quarter *adj, always used before a noun* : three-quarters of the full amount, length, size, etc., of something • *three-quarter* sleeves

three·quarters *noun* [*plural*] : an amount equal to three of the four parts which make up something : seventy-five percent • *Three-quarters* of the class will be going on the trip. • *three-quarters* of an hour [=45 minutes]

three·ring circus *noun*, *pl* ~ **-cuses** [*count*]

1 : a circus that has three separate areas where performances occur at the same time

2 *US, informal* : a place with a lot of busy and confusing activity • When the kids come home from school, my house is a *three-ring circus*.

three R's *noun*

the three R's : the basic subjects of reading, writing, and arithmetic that are taught in school to young children

three·score /'θri:'sko/ *adj, old-fashioned* : SIXTY • *three-score* years [=60 years]

three·some /'θri:səm/ *noun*, *pl* **-somes** [*count*] : a group of three people or things • a *threesome* of reporters • a golfing *threesome*

three·way *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : involving three people or groups • a *three-way* conversation/deal/partnership — compare ONE-WAY, TWO-WAY

2 : allowing movement in any one of three directions • a *three-way* intersection — compare ONE-WAY, TWO-WAY

thren·o·dy /'θrenədi/ *noun*, *pl* **-dies** [*count*] *literary* : a song or poem that expresses sorrow for someone who is dead

thresh /'θreʃ/ *verb* **thresh·es; threshed; thresh·ing** : to separate the seeds of corn, wheat, etc., from the plant by using a special machine or tool [+ *obj*] *thresh* wheat [*no obj*] *threshing* and harvesting at the same time

— **thresh·er** /'θreʃə/ *noun*, *pl* **-ers** [*count*]

thresh·old /'θreʃ,hould/ *noun*, *pl* **-olds** [*count*]

1 : a piece of wood, metal, or stone that forms the bottom of a door and that you walk over as you enter a room or building • He stepped across the *threshold*. • When they were married he *carried her over the threshold*. [=he picked her up and carried her into their home when they entered it together for the first time]

2 : the point or level at which something begins or changes • If your income rises above a certain *threshold*, your tax rate also rises. • sounds that are above/below the *threshold* of hearing [=sounds that are too high/low to be heard] • I have a low *threshold* for boredom. [=I get bored easily] • He has a high *pain threshold*. [=he does not feel pain as easily as other people]

on/at the threshold : at the beginning of something or very close to something (such as a new condition, an important discovery, etc.) — usually + *of* • young people *on the threshold* of adulthood • We are (standing) *at the threshold* of a great adventure.

threw *past tense of* ¹THROW

thrice /ˈθraɪs/ *adv*, *old-fashioned* : three times • She was *thrice* married.

thrift /ˈθrɪft/ *noun* [noncount]

1 *old-fashioned* : careful use of money so that it is not wasted • Through hard work and *thrift* they sent all of their children to college.

2 *US* : a business like a bank that is used for saving money : a savings bank or a savings and loan association — called also *thrift institution*

thrift shop *noun*, *pl* ~ **shops** [count] *US* : a store that sells used goods and especially used clothes and that is often run by a charity — called also *thrift store*; compare CHARITY SHOP

thrifty /ˈθrɪfti/ *adj* **thrift-i-er**; **-est** : managing or using money in a careful or wise way • a *thrifty* family/shopper • She has *thrifty* habits.

— **thrift-i-ness** /ˈθrɪftɪnəs/ *noun* [noncount] • a man known for his *thriftiness*

¹**thrill** /ˈθrɪl/ *verb* **thrills**; **thrilled**; **thrill-ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone) to feel very excited or happy • Circus performers still *thrill* audiences today. • I was *thrilled* by their decision.

2 [*no obj*] : to feel very excited or happy about something — usually + *at* or *to* • Crowds *thrilled to* the sights and sounds of the circus. • She *thrilled at* the thought of meeting him. — see also THRILLED

²**thrill** *noun*, *pl* **thrills** [count]

1 : a feeling of great excitement or happiness • The *thrill* is gone from our marriage. • He felt a *thrill* of pride/pleasure/anticipation. • the *thrill* of discovery/victory • He gets a big *thrill* out of seeing his grandchildren. [=seeing his grandchildren makes him very happy] • He had a great career and gave the fans a lot of *thrills*. • What do people do for *thrills* [=excitement] around here? • She got the *thrill of her life* from seeing the Queen. [=seeing the Queen was very exciting] • They *get their thrills from* drag racing. [=they drag race because it is exciting]

2 : a very exciting or enjoyable event or experience • It's a real *thrill* for me to be here tonight. • What a *thrill* it was to see the Queen! • (*US*) a movie with a lot of *thrills and chills* [=exciting and scary parts] • the *thrills and spills* of car racing

thrilled *adj*, *not used before a noun* [more ~; most ~] : very excited and happy • I'm so *thrilled* to see you. • "Will you come to dinner at my house tomorrow?" "Certainly. I'd be *thrilled*." • I'm not *thrilled* about/with her decision. • (*US*) He was *thrilled to death/pieces* [=very excited and pleased] about the baby. = (*chiefly Brit*) He was *thrilled to bits* about the baby. • I'm *less than thrilled* [=not happy] with her decision. • He was *none/not too thrilled* [=not pleased] by the idea.

thriller /ˈθrɪlər/ *noun*, *pl* **-lers** [count] : a novel, movie, etc., that is very exciting : a story full of exciting action, mystery, adventure, or suspense • His latest novel is a political *thriller*.

thrilling *adj* [more ~; most ~] : very exciting • I can't imagine a more *thrilling* experience. • a *thrilling* discovery • It was *thrilling* to see her win the race.

— **thrill-ing-ly** /ˈθrɪlɪŋli/ *adv*

thrill ride *noun*, *pl* ~ **rides** [count] : a very exciting ride (such as a roller coaster) at an amusement park — often used figuratively • The campaign has been a *thrill ride* from the beginning. [=the campaign has been very exciting]

thrive /ˈθraɪv/ *verb* **thrives**; **thrived** or *old-fashioned* **throve** /ˈθrouv/; **thrived** also *old-fashioned* **thriv-en** /ˈθrɪvən/; **thriv-ing** /ˈθraɪvɪŋ/ [*no obj*] : to grow or develop successfully : to flourish or succeed • Business is *thriving*. [=booming] • The region *thrived* [=prospered] under his rule. • plants that *thrive* [=grow well] in the desert

thrive on [*phrasal verb*] **thrive on (something)** : to do well in a situation in which you are given (a particular type of treatment) • She *thrives on* attention. : to benefit from (something, especially something that others might find difficult or unpleasant) • These plants seem to *thrive on* neglect. • He actually *thrives on* stress.

— **thriving** *adj* • a *thriving* economy • a *thriving* port

throat /ˈθroʊt/ *noun*, *pl* **throats** [count]

1 : the tube inside the neck that leads to the stomach and lungs • My *throat* was dry so I took a sip of water. • His *throat* was sore. • He *cleared his throat* [=made a noise in his throat in order to get attention or to prepare to speak] and began to speak. — see also STREP THROAT

2 : the front part of the neck • He held a knife to her *throat*.

His shirt was open at the *throat*. • He grabbed her by the *throat*.

a *frog in your throat* see FROG

a *lump in your throat* see ¹LUMP

at each other's throats : very angry with each other : having a serious fight or argument • Workers and management have been *at each other's throats*.

cut your own throat : to do something that is bad for you : to act in a way that will cause you harm • They ended up *cutting their own throats* when they raised prices because their customers went elsewhere.

force/ram/shove (something) down someone's throat *informal* : to force someone to accept or like (something, such as your ideas or beliefs) • She was always *forcing* her opinions *down his throat*.

jump down someone's throat *informal* : to respond angrily to someone • He *jumped down my throat* when I suggested a different plan.

throat-ed /ˈθroʊtəd/ *adj*

1 : making a certain kind of sound from the throat — used in combination • a full-throated cry • the bullfrog's deep-throated call

2 : having a throat of a certain kind or color — used in combination • a white-throated sparrow

throaty /ˈθroʊti/ *adj* **throat-i-er**; **-est of a sound** : deep or rough : made in the back of the throat • a *throaty* laugh

— **throat-i-ly** /ˈθroʊtəli/ *adv* • He chuckled *throatily*.

¹**throb** /ˈθrɔ:b/ *verb* **throbs**; **throbbed**; **throb-bing** [*no obj*]

1 : to feel a pain that starts and stops quickly and repeatedly • Her finger *throbbed* with pain. • My head is *throbbing*.

2 : to beat with a strong, steady rhythm • He could hear his heart *throbbing*. [=pounding] • The music *throbs* with a Caribbean beat. • drums *throbbing* in the distance — sometimes used figuratively • a soul *throbbing* with loneliness [=a very lonely soul] • a tiny stream *throbbing* with life [=full of life]

— **throbbing** *adj* • He had a *throbbing* pain in his shoulder. • I have a *throbbing* [=pounding] headache.

²**throb** *noun* [singular]

1 : a strong, steady beat • the *throb* of the drums

2 : pain that starts and stops quickly and repeatedly • The pain has changed to a dull *throb*.

— see also HEARTTHROB

throes /ˈθrouz/ *noun* [plural] : painful emotions, sensations, or feelings • She was suffering the *throes* [=pangs] of remorse. • the *throes* of childbirth • death *throes*

in the throes of : experiencing (something painful) • She met him while he was *in the throes of* a messy divorce.

throm-bo-sis /θrəmˈboʊsəs/ *noun*, *pl* **-bo-ses** /-ˈboʊsɪz/ [count, noncount] *medical* : a serious condition caused when a blood clot blocks the flow of blood in a blood vessel • coronary *thrombosis*

throne /ˈθroun/ *noun*, *pl* **thrones**

1 [count] : the special chair for a king, queen, or other powerful person • The king sat on his *throne*.

2 **the throne** : the position of king or queen • He is next in line for *the throne*. • the heir to *the throne* • He *ascended the throne* [=became king] after the death of his father.

the power behind the throne see ¹POWER

¹**throng** /ˈθrɔ:ŋ/ *noun*, *pl* **throngs** [count] : a large group of people — often + *of* • There were *throngs of* shoppers in the mall. • A *throng of* fans was waiting for the players to arrive.

²**throng** *verb* **throngs**; **thronged**; **throng-ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to go to (a place) in a large group or in large numbers • Shoppers *thronged* the mall for the sales. • The island was *thronged* with tourists. = Tourists *thronged* the island. • People *thronged* [=filled] the streets.

2 [*no obj*] : to gather in a crowd or in great numbers — + *around* or *to* • Fans *thronged around* him. • Shoppers *thronged to* the mall.

¹**throt-tle** /ˈθrɔ:təl/ *noun*, *pl* **throt-tles** [count] *technical* : a device that controls the flow of fuel to an engine • When you press a car's accelerator, it opens the *throttle*, and the car goes faster.

at full throttle : as fast as possible • She drove *at full throttle*. • The project is proceeding *at full throttle*.

²**throttle** *verb* **throttles**; **throt-tled**; **throt-tling** [+ *obj*]

1 : to choke or strangle (someone) • He *throttled* her in a fit of jealous rage. • I'm so mad I could *throttle* her!

2 *US, informal* : to defeat (someone or something) easily or completely • The home team *throttled* [=clobbered] the opposition last night.

3 : to not allow (something) to grow or develop • policies that *throttle* creativity
throttle back [phrasal verb] *throttle back* or *throttle back (something)* or *throttle (something) back* : to reduce the amount of fuel flowing to an engine by adjusting the throttle • He *throttled back* to 45 mph. — sometimes used figuratively • You need to *throttle back* your anger. [=you need to stop being so angry]

1through /'θru:/ prep

1 : into one side and out the other side of (something) • He hit the nail *through* the wood. • She looked *through* the binoculars. • The bullet had gone *through* his hand.
2 : from one side or end to another side or end of (something) • He just walked *through* the door. • The security guards pushed their way *through* the crowd. • She could see a figure *through* the fog. • I looked *through* the window.
3 — used to describe movement within a place or an area of land, air, etc. • They spent a couple of hours walking *through* the mall. [=walking to various places in the mall] • We rode our mountain bikes *through* the woods. • The snake slithered *through* the grass. • birds gliding *through* the air
4 — used to indicate the path that is followed to get somewhere or the path that someone or something moves along • The bathroom is *through* that hallway on the left. • Cold air was getting in *through* a crack in the wall. • People usually come in *through* the side door.
5 : without stopping for (a traffic signal, a stop sign, etc.) • He got caught driving *through* a red light.
6 a : by using (someone or something) • The leaders communicated *through* interpreters. • I learned of the job opening *through* her. [=she told me about the job opening] • They ruled the country *through* fear. [=by making people afraid]
b : by doing (something) • He learned to cook *through* [=by] watching his mother in the kitchen. **c** : because of (something) • The company's profits increased *through* improved sales. • We will succeed only *through* [=by means of] hard work. • knowledge that is gained *through* life experience
7 : over all the parts of (something) : **THROUGHOUT** • The illness swept *through* the town. • The students were given time to go *through* their notes before the exam.
8 : from the beginning to the end of (something) • He slept *through* the movie. • Many students work *through* the summer. • All *through* [=throughout] her life, she dreamed of going up into outer space. • We left *halfway through* [=in the middle of] the lecture.
9 US — used to indicate the numbers, days, etc., that are included in a range • The store is open Monday *through* Friday. [=is open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday] • Read chapters 2 *through* 5 for homework.
10 — used to say that you have survived or completed something • We're *through* the worst part of the storm. [=the worst part of the storm has ended] • I think she'll be more comfortable at college now that she's *through* her first semester. [=now that she has completed her first semester]
11 : to a state of official acceptance or approval by (an organization) • The vote got the bill *through* the legislature.

2through adv

1 : from one side or end to the other • Let these people go *through*, please. • The nail went completely *through*.
2 : over the whole distance • It snowed heavily, but we made it *through*. • We'll never get *through*—the mud is too deep. • The package was shipped *through* to New Orleans.
3 : from the beginning to the end • Read the essay *through* and tell me what you think. • The teacher stopped the movie *halfway through*. [=when it was half finished]
4 : without stopping • The light was red, but he drove straight *through*.
5 : to the end of an action, process, or activity : until something is completed or achieved • I need time to *think* this problem *through*. [=to think about it until I understand it completely or have made a decision] • He intended to *see* the project *through*. [=to continue working until the project was finished]
6 : in or to every part : completely or thoroughly • Her clothes were wet *through*. • He heated the casserole *through*. • You are your mother's child *through and through*. [=you are like your mother in every way] • He is a gentleman *through and through*.
7 of a phone call : in connection with the person you are calling • The operator *put me through* to him. • I called, but I couldn't *get through*.

3through adj

1 not used before a noun, chiefly US a : having reached the

end of an activity, job, etc. : **FINISHED** • I'm not *through* yet. I have one more topic to discuss. • If you're *through* using the phone, I'd like to use it next. — often + *with* • She is almost *through with* law school. [=she has almost finished law school] • He says he's *through with* gambling. [=he will not gamble anymore] • I left when the movie was about *halfway through*. **b** : no longer in a romantic relationship • Lisa and I are *through*. [=finished] — often + *with* • I'm *through with* him. **c** : no longer able to continue in a role, activity, etc. • After this scandal, he could be *through* [=finished] as a politician. • His career is *through*.

2 always used before a noun a : allowing passage from one end to the other • Is this a *through* road/street? **b** : going the whole distance without stopping • The left lane is for *through* traffic only.

1through-out /θru'au:/ prep

1 : in or to every part of (something) • The company has stores *throughout* the United States and Canada. • She has traveled *throughout* the world.
2 : during an entire (situation or period of time) • His supporters remained loyal *throughout* his difficulties. • *Throughout* her life, she has suffered with the disease. • It rained *throughout* the day.

2throughout adv

1 : in or to every part • The house is painted white *throughout*. • The house has wood floors *throughout*.
2 : from the beginning to the end : during the whole time or situation • He had a difficult year, but his supporters remained loyal *throughout*.

through-put /'θru:put/ noun, pl -puts **technical** : the amount of material, data, etc., that enters and goes through something (such as a machine or system) [count] The network can handle large *throughputs*. [noncount] finding ways to increase *throughput*

throughway variant spelling of **THRUWAY**

throve old-fashioned past tense of **THRIVE**

1throw /'θrou/ verb **throws; threw** /'θru:/; **thrown** /'θroun/; **throw-ing**

1 : to cause (something) to move out of your hand and through the air by quickly moving your arm forward [+ obj] She *threw* the ball to first base. • We *threw* our hats in the air at the end of the ceremony. • *Throw* me the car keys. = *Throw* the car keys to me. • a poorly *thrown* ball [no obj] Let's see how far you can *throw*. • You *throw* like a wimp. • He hurt his *throwing* arm/hand. [=the arm/hand that he uses to throw a baseball, football, etc.]
2 always followed by an adverb or preposition [+ obj] : to put (something) in a particular place in a careless or forceful way • She *threw* her coat on the bed. • Don't *throw* your trash on the ground. *Throw* it in the trash can. • He *threw* (down) the newspaper on the table in disgust. — sometimes used figuratively • *Throwing* all his inhibitions aside/overboard, he took off his clothes and went skinny-dipping.
3 always followed by an adverb or preposition [+ obj] : to cause (someone or something) to move suddenly or forcefully to or away from a particular place • The wrestler *threw* his opponent to the mat. • The crash *threw* the driver from the car. • She was *thrown* from the horse. • The storm *threw* the boat against a reef.
4 [+ obj] sports : to perform an action that involves throwing a ball • (American football) The quarterback *threw* a pass. • (American football) The quarterback *threw* a touchdown/interception. [=threw a pass that resulted in a touchdown/interception] • (baseball) The pitcher *threw* a curve to him. = The pitcher *threw* him a curve. • (baseball) He *threw* [=pitched] the first three innings of the game. • (baseball) In her last game, she *threw* [=pitched] a no-hitter/shutout.
5 a : to send (something) from your hand in a way that causes it to move forward and turn over many times along a surface [+ obj] She shook the dice and *threw* [=rolled] them on the table. • He *threw* the bowling ball. [no obj] It's your turn to *throw*. **b [+ obj]** : to get (a number or score) by throwing dice or a bowling ball • She *threw* a six/spare.
6 always followed by an adverb or preposition [+ obj] : to cause or force (someone or something) to suddenly be in a particular state, condition, or position • The discovery *threw* the previous theory into (a state of) doubt. • They arrested him and *threw* him in/into prison. [=put him in prison] • The government *threw* the territory open to settlers. — often used as (be) *thrown* • The crowd was *thrown* into confusion. [=the crowd suddenly became very confused] • He was *thrown* into prison. • She was *thrown* into a very difficult situ-



ation. • When the factory closed, the workers *were thrown* out of their jobs. [=the workers lost their jobs]

7 [+ *obj*] **a** *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to forcefully move (yourself or a part of your body) in a particular direction • They *threw* their arms around each other. • She *threw* herself into his arms. • She *threw* back her head in laughter. • He *threw* his shoulders back and stuck out his chest. • He *threw* himself onto the couch. • She *threw* her leg over the arm of the chair. **b** : to swing your arm and try to hit someone with your fist • The boxer *threw* a quick left jab. • I broke up the argument before they started *throwing punches*. [=trying to hit each other]

8 [+ *obj*] **a** *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to move (something) to an open or closed position in a forceful and sudden way • She *threw* open the window to get some air. • He *threw* the door shut. **b** : to move (a switch) to an on or off position • She *threw* the switch.

9 [+ *obj*] : to organize and hold (a party) • Let's *throw* a party to celebrate. • Her friends are *throwing* her a baby shower. = They are *throwing* a baby shower for her.

10 [+ *obj*] : to lose (a game or contest) in a deliberate way • He was suspected of *throwing* the boxing match.

11 [+ *obj*] : to express strong emotions in an uncontrolled way • The child was *throwing a (temper) tantrum* in the middle of the store. • Dad will *throw a fit* [=he will be extremely angry] if he finds out.

12 [+ *obj*] : to use (your effort, influence, money, etc.) in order to accomplish something • Lobbyists are *throwing their weight/influence behind* the legislation. [=they are using their influence to support the legislation] — often + *into* • She *threw* all her efforts *into* the boy's defense. [=she worked as hard as she could for the boy's defense] • They've been *throwing* all their money *into* (repairing) the house. • She *threw* everything she had *into* winning the match. [=she tried as hard as she could to win the match]

13 [+ *obj*] : to direct (something, such as a question or look) at someone • She *threw* him an evil look. — often + *at* • She *threw* an evil look *at* him. • He *threw* the question *back at* me. [=he asked me the same question that I asked him]

14 [+ *obj*] *informal* : to cause (someone) to feel confused or surprised • The tricky wording of the contract didn't *throw* her. • The announcement that he was resigning really *threw* me. — see also *throw (someone) for a loop* at ¹LOOP, *throw (someone) for a loss* at ¹LOSS

15 [+ *obj*] : to cause (something, such as a shadow) to appear on a surface • The tree *threw* a shadow across the lawn. • The setting sun *threw* long shadows on the buildings. — sometimes used figuratively • His alleged steroid use *threw* a shadow on his record.

16 [+ *obj*] : to put (a vehicle) *into* a different gear especially in a quick and sudden way • He *threw* the car *into* reverse.

17 [+ *obj*] : to make (your voice) sound as if it is coming from another person or place • Ventriloquists can *throw* their voices so that their dummies appear to speak.

18 [+ *obj*] *US, informal* : to do (something that requires special skill) successfully • Kids were *throwing* [=performing] stunts/tricks on skateboards at the park.

19 [+ *obj*] *technical* : to form or shape (something, such as clay or a pot) on a special wheel • She enjoys *throwing* pottery.

In addition to the phrases shown below, *throw* occurs in many idioms that are shown at appropriate entries throughout the dictionary. For example, *throw down the gauntlet* can be found at ²GAUNTLET and *throw light on* can be found at ¹LIGHT.

throw away [*phrasal verb*] **throw away (something) or throw (something) away** **1** : to put (something that is no longer useful or wanted) in a trash can, garbage can, rubbish bin, etc. • We *threw away* [=threw out] a lot of old junk that was in the basement. • *Throw* that candy wrapper *away*, please. — see also **THROWAWAY** **2 a** : to use (something) in a foolish or wasteful way • He *threw away* [=squandered] his life savings. • He *threw* all of his money *away* on gambling. • Don't *throw* your life *away*. **b** : to foolishly fail to use (something, such as a chance) • She *threw away* [=wasted] an opportunity. • You had a chance to do something great, and you *threw* it *away*.

throw in [*phrasal verb*] **throw in (something) or throw (something) in** **1** : to add (something) to what you are selling without asking for more money • If you buy two, we'll *throw in* a third (for free)! **2** : to add (something) to the effort or activity of a group • He *threw in* a guitar solo to-

ward the end of the song. • She *threw in* a suggestion or two during the meeting.

throw off [*phrasal verb*] **1 throw off (something) or throw (something) off** **a** : to quickly remove (a piece of clothing) • He *threw* his robe *off* and jumped into the shower. **b** : to get rid of (something you do not want, such as a quality or a condition) • She tried to *throw off* her reputation as being difficult to work with. • He *threw off* his inhibitions and went skinny-dipping. • *throwing off* all restraint **c** : to cause (something) to be incorrect • A decimal point in the wrong place *threw* his calculations *off*. • The dropped ball *threw off* the quarterback's timing. **d** : to send (light, smoke, etc.) out from a source • The woodstove *throws off* [=gives off] a lot of heat. **2 throw off (someone) or throw (someone) off** **a** : to cause (someone) to be confused or uncertain about where to go, what to do, etc. • The professor was *thrown off* [=distracted] during her lecture by a ringing cell phone. • I'm sorry about getting the date wrong. I was *thrown off* by the fact that yesterday was a holiday. **b** : to get away from (someone who is trying to catch you) • He managed to *throw off* [=escape from] his pursuers by swimming across the river.

throw on [*phrasal verb*] **throw on (something) or throw (something) on** **1** : to quickly put on (a piece of clothing) • She *threw on* her coat and ran out the door. • Let me *throw* some shoes *on*. **2** : to cause (something) to work by moving a switch • He *threw on* [=switched on] the lights.

throw out [*phrasal verb*] **1 throw out (something) or throw (something) out** **a** : to put (something that is no longer useful or wanted) in a trash can, garbage can, rubbish bin, etc. • She *threw out* [=threw away] a pair of old shoes. **b** : to refuse to accept or consider (something) • The committee *threw out* [=rejected] the proposal. • His testimony was *thrown out* by the judge. **c** : to mention (something) as a possible thing to be done, thought about, etc. : SUGGEST • She *threw out* a couple of ideas for improving the company's Web site. • He *threw out* some hints, but nobody could guess the surprise. **d** : to send (light, smoke, etc.) out from a source • The campfire started *throwing out* sparks. • The woodstove *throws out* a lot of heat. **e** : to injure (a part of your body) • I *threw out* my back lifting a chair. **2 throw (someone) out or throw out (someone)** **a** : to force (someone) to leave a place, game, etc. • The referee *threw out* two players for fighting. • His parents threatened to *throw* him *out* (of the house) if he didn't start behaving better. • She got *thrown out* of school for cheating. **b baseball** : to cause (a player) to be out by throwing the ball to the base that the player is running to • The shortstop *threw* the runner *out* at second.

throw together [*phrasal verb*] **1 throw together (something) or throw (something) together** : to make (something) by joining or combining things in a quick and usually careless way • He *threw* some dinner *together* for his friends. • They *threw together* the bookshelf in less than an hour. **2 throw together (people) or throw (people) together** : to bring (people) together usually in an unexpected way • People of different occupations were *thrown together* for the jury.

throw up [*phrasal verb*] **1 throw up or throw up (something) or throw (something) up** *informal* : to have the food, liquid, etc., that is in your stomach come out through your mouth : VOMIT • She said she felt sick and then *threw up*. • The patient was *throwing up* blood. **2 throw up (something) or throw (something) up** **a** : to raise or lift (something) quickly or suddenly • He *threw up* the window and yelled down to her. • Her car's tires *threw up* dust as she sped away. **b** : to build (something) quickly • The house was *thrown up* almost overnight. **c chiefly Brit** : to leave (your job, home, etc.) • She *threw up* [=quit] her job to devote time to painting. **d Brit** : to cause (something) to be known • A lot of information has been *thrown up* from the investigation. • The study has *thrown up* some surprising results. **3 throw up your hands or throw your hands up (in the air)** : to stop an activity or effort and admit that you cannot do anything to make a situation better • He tried to convince her not to go, but in the end he had to *throw up his hands* in despair. • She *threw her hands up* in disgust.

throw yourself at (someone) *informal* : to try too hard to attract the attention of (someone you are sexually attracted to) • Stop *throwing yourself at* him. You'll look desperate.

throw yourself into : to begin doing or working on (something) with great energy and determination • He *threw him-*

self into (composing/performing) his music. • She *threw herself into* the assignment with a lot of enthusiasm.

²throw *noun, pl throws* [count]

1 a : an act of throwing something (such as a ball) • The quarterback made a perfect *throw*. — see also FREE THROW, HAMMER THROW **b** : an act of rolling dice • He lost all his winnings on his last *throw*.

2 : the distance over which something is thrown or could be thrown • a discus *throw* of 200 feet • It's a long *throw* from center field to home plate.

3 : a loose blanket or cloth that is put on a sofa, chair, etc.

a *stone's throw* see ¹STONE

a *throw Brit, informal* : for each one : A PIECE • Tickets cost £25 a *throw*.

throw-away /'θrəʊə,wei/ *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : made to be thrown away after use : DISPOSABLE • *throw-away* containers

2 : made or said with very little thought • a *throwaway* remark

3 : tending to throw things away instead of keeping them and using them again : very wasteful • a *throwaway* culture/society

throw-back /'θrəʊ,bæk/ *noun, pl -backs* [count] : a person

or thing that is similar to someone or something from the past or that is suited to an earlier time — usually singular; usually + *to* • She's a *throwback* to the actresses of the 1950s. • The band's music is a *throwback* to the 1980s.

throw-er /'θrəʊə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count] : a person or thing

that throws something • discus *throwers* — see also FLAMETHROWER, SNOW THROWER

throw-in /'θrəʊ,in/ *noun, pl -ins* [count] *sports* : an act of

throwing a ball into a playing area or to another player: such as **a** : a throw made in soccer or rugby to put the ball back in play after it has gone out of the playing area **b** : a throw from a player in the outfield to a player in the infield in baseball

thrown *past participle of* ¹THROW

throw pillow *noun, pl ~ -lows* [count] *chiefly US* : a small

pillow that is used especially for decoration — called also (*Brit*) *scatter cushion*; see picture at LIVING ROOM

throw rug *noun, pl ~ rugs* [count] *chiefly US* : a small rug

that can be easily moved — called also *scatter rug*

thrum /'θrʌm/ *verb* **thrums; thrummed; thrumming** [*no*

obj] : to make a low, steady sound • The engine *thrummed*.

— **thrum** *noun* [*singular*] • the *thrum* of the engine

¹thrush /'θrʌʃ/ *noun, pl thrushes* [count] : a type of bird

that is brown with a spotted breast — compare ²THRUSH

²thrush *noun* [*noncount*] *medical*

1 : a disease that occurs mostly in babies and children, that is caused by a fungus, and that produces white patches in the mouth and throat

2 *chiefly Brit* : YEAST INFECTION

— compare ¹THRUSH

¹thrust /'θrʌst/ *verb* **thrusters; thrust; thrusting**

1 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [+ *obj*] : to push (someone or something) with force : SHOVE • He *thrust* his hands into his pockets. • He *thrust* his fist into the air. • She *thrust* him aside [=pushed him to the side] and walked past him. • He *thrust* his way through the crowd. [=he went through the crowd by pushing people aside] — sometimes used figuratively • Her best-selling book suddenly *thrust* her into the spotlight. • He *thrust* all caution aside. • She's unable to *thrust* aside [=to forget] those memories.

2 [+ *obj*] : to cause (something sharp) to enter or go through something else by pushing • The doctor *thrust* the needle into the patient's arm.

3 [*no obj*] : to make a sudden, strong, forward movement at someone or something with a weapon • He *thrust* at me with his sword.

thrust on/upon [*phrasal verb*] **thrust (something) on/upon (someone)** : to force (someone) to have or accept (something) • Fame was *thrust upon* her. [=she became famous even though she did not try or want to be famous]

²thrust *noun, pl thrusts*

1 [count] : a forward or upward push • With one last *thrust* he broke through the barrier. • a *thrust* of the hip = a hip *thrust* • a single *thrust* of his sword

2 [*singular*] **a** : the main point or meaning of something • I agreed with the (main) *thrust* of the argument/theory/article. **b** : the main concern or purpose of something • The major *thrust* of their research [=the main reason they are doing their research] will be to find practical applications.

3 [*noncount*] *technical* : the force produced by an engine that causes an aircraft, rocket, etc., to move forward • forward *thrust*

cut and thrust see ²CUT

thru-way *also through-way* /'θru:,wei/ *noun, pl -ways*

[count] *US* : a large highway that can be entered and left only at certain places • the New York State *Thruway*

¹thud /'θʌd/ *verb* **thuds; thud-ded; thud-ding** [*no obj*]

1 : to hit something with a loud, dull sound • The ball *thud-ded* against the side of the house.

2 : to beat forcefully • Her heart was *thudding* [=thumping, pounding] against her rib cage.

²thud *noun, pl thuds* [count] : a loud, dull sound made espe-

cially when a heavy object hits something : THUMP • The book hit the floor with a *thud*. • The ball landed with a *thud*. • I heard a heavy *thud* on the roof.

thug /'θʌg/ *noun, pl thugs* [count] : a violent criminal • a

gang of *thugs* • He was beaten and robbed by street *thugs*.

— **thug-gish** /'θʌgɪʃ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] • *thuggish* violence/behavior • a *thuggish* regime

thug-gery /'θʌgəri/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : behavior that

is violent and illegal : the behavior of thugs • political corruption and *thuggery* • protection from street *thuggery*

¹thumb /'θʌm/ *noun, pl thumbs* [count]

1 : the short, thick finger on the side of your hand • a little girl sucking her *thumb* • I accidentally cut my *thumb*. — see picture at HAND; see also GREEN THUMB

2 : the part of a glove or mitten that covers a thumb • My mitten has a hole in the *thumb*.

all thumbs (US) or Brit all fingers and thumbs : extremely awkward or clumsy • I'm *all thumbs* when it comes to wrapping packages.

rule of thumb see ¹RULE

stick out like a sore thumb see ¹SORE

twiddle your thumbs see TWIDDLE

under someone's thumb : under someone's control or influence • He kept the employees *under his thumb*.

²thumb *verb* **thumbs; thumbed; thumb-ing** *informal* : to

ask for or get a ride in a passing vehicle by sticking out your arm with your thumb up as you stand on the side of the road : HITCHHIKE [+ *obj*] I *thumbed* a ride/lift to school. • He *thumbed* his way to New York. [*no obj*] He *thumbed* across the country.

thumb through [*phrasal verb*] **thumb through (something)**

: to turn the pages of (a book, magazine, etc.) quickly • I *thumbed through* a magazine while I waited.

thumb your nose at : to show very clearly that you do not like or care about (something) • She *thumbed her nose at* my suggestions. • They *thumb their nose at* the rules. [=they ignore the rules]

— **thumbed** *adj* — used in combination • a well-*thumbed* book [=a book that has been used/read a lot] • a much-*thumbed* copy of the rules

thumb index *noun, pl ~ -dexes* [count] : a series of small

cuts in the edge of the pages in a large book that are labeled and that make it easier to open the book to a particular section • a dictionary that has a *thumb index*

— **thumb-indexed** *adj* • a *thumb-indexed* dictionary

¹thumb-nail /'θʌm,neɪl/ *noun, pl -nails* [count]

1 : the hard covering at the end of a thumb : the fingernail of a thumb — see picture at HAND

2 *computers* : a very small copy of a larger picture on a computer • You can see a larger version of the picture by clicking on the *thumbnail*.

²thumbnail *adj* : very short or brief • a *thumbnail* history •

He included a *thumbnail sketch* [=a short description] of the poet.

thumb-print /'θʌm,prɪnt/ *noun, pl -prints* [count] : the

pattern of marks made by pressing your thumb on a surface : a fingerprint made by a thumb • He left a dirty *thumbprint* on the page. — sometimes used figuratively • Her *thumbprints* are all over this project. [=it is obvious that she was very involved in this project]

thumb-screw /'θʌm,skru:/ *noun, pl -screws* [count]

1 : a device used in the past to torture people by crushing their thumbs — sometimes used figuratively • The government is *tightening/putting the thumbscrews on* dissenters. [=the government is putting a lot of pressure on dissenters to stop; the government is treating dissenters very harshly]

2 : a type of screw with a flat-sided head that can be held and turned with your thumb and fingers

thumbs-down /'θʌmz'daʊn/ *noun* [*singular*] : a gesture in

which you hold your hand out with your thumb pointed down in order to say no, to show disapproval, etc. • When I asked him if they won, he just shook his head and gave me a/the *thumbs-down*. — often used figuratively • Our proposal got a/the *thumbs-down*. [=our proposal was rejected] • The show got a big *thumbs-down* from critics. [=critics did not like the show]

thumbs-up /'θʌmz'ʌp/ *noun* [singular] : a gesture in which you hold your hand out with your thumb pointed up in order to say yes, to show approval, etc. • The coach gave me a/the *thumbs-up* after I scored the goal. — often used figuratively • Our proposal got a/the *thumbs-up*. [=our proposal was approved] • The movie got a *thumbs-up* from most critics. [=most critics liked the movie]

thumb-tack /'θʌm,tæk/ *noun*, *pl* **-tacks** [count] *US* : a short pin that has a large, flat head and that is used to attach papers, pictures, etc., to a wall or bulletin board — called also (*Brit*) *drawing pin*; see picture at OFFICE

¹thump /'θʌmp/ *verb* **thumps**; **thumped**; **thump-ing**

1 : to hit or beat something or someone and make a loud, deep sound [no *obj*] Someone was *thumping* [=pounding] loudly on the door. • The boat *thumped* against the side of the pier. [+ *obj*] gorillas *thumping* their chests • I *thumped* [=pounded] him on the back. • I was so angry I wanted to *thump* him (one).

2 [no *obj*] : to beat forcefully • I could feel my heart *thumping* [=pounding] inside my chest.

3 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [no *obj*] : to walk or run with loud, heavy steps • She *thumped* [=clumped] up the stairs.

²thump *noun*, *pl* **thumps** [count]

1 : a loud, deep sound made especially when a heavy object hits something • The ball landed with a *thump*.

2 : an act of hitting someone or something • I gave him a (good) *thump* on the back. [=I thumped him on the back]

¹thump-ing /'θʌmpɪŋ/ *adj*, *chiefly Brit*, *informal* : very large, great, etc. • She won the election by a *thumping* [=whopping] 79 percent. • He told a *thumping* lie.

²thumping *adv*, *Brit*, *informal* : VERY, EXTREMELY • That was a *thumping* great story she told. • We had a *thumping* good time.

¹thun-der /'θʌndə/ *noun*

1 [noncount] : the very loud sound that comes from the sky during a storm : the sound that follows a flash of lightning • Her dog is afraid of *thunder*. • Lightning flashed and *thunder* boomed/crashed. • Suddenly there was a loud clap of *thunder*. • We could hear the rumble of *thunder* in the distance.

2 [singular] : a loud noise that sounds like thunder • the *thunder* of horses' hooves • the distant *thunder* of cannon fire • She accepted the award to a *thunder* of applause.

a face like thunder *Brit* : a face that looks very angry • He burst into the room with a *face like thunder*.

steal someone's thunder : to prevent someone from having success or getting a lot of attention, praise, etc., by doing or saying whatever that person was planning to do or say • I didn't mean to *steal your thunder*, but I just had to tell your mom about your promotion.

²thunder *verb* **-ders**; **-dered**; **-der-ing**

1 [no *obj*] : to produce thunder • The sky *thundered* and the rain poured down. • It was raining and *thundering* all night.

2 [no *obj*] **a** : to make a loud sound like the sound of thunder • Guns *thundered* in the distance. • a *thundering* waterfall **b** *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to move in a way that makes a very loud sound • Horses *thundered* down the road. • Jets *thundered* overhead. • Trucks *thundered* past on the highway.

3 [+ *obj*] : to shout (something) very loudly • The crowd *thundered* [=roared] its approval. • "How dare you come into my house!" he *thundered*.

thun-der-bolt /'θʌndə,bəʊlt/ *noun*, *pl* **-bolts** [count] : a flash of lightning that makes a loud sound of thunder and that hits someone or something • He was struck dead by a *thunderbolt*. — sometimes used figuratively • The news hit them like a *thunderbolt*. [=the news was very shocking or surprising]

thun-der-clap /'θʌndə,klæp/ *noun*, *pl* **-claps** [count] : a very loud, sharp sound of thunder • I was awakened by a *thunderclap*.

thun-der-cloud /'θʌndə,klaʊd/ *noun*, *pl* **-clouds** [count] : a large, dark cloud that produces lightning and thunder • We watched the gathering *thunderclouds*. — compare STORM CLOUD

thun-der-head /'θʌndə,hed/ *noun*, *pl* **-heads** [count] *chiefly US* : a very large cloud appearing before a thunderstorm • A *thunderhead* was forming to the west.

thun-der-ous /'θʌndərəs/ *adj* : making a loud noise like the sound of thunder : very loud • The audience responded with *thunderous* applause.

— **thun-der-ous-ly** *adv* • It was *thunderously* loud.

thun-der-show-er /'θʌndə,ʃawə/ *noun*, *pl* **-ers** [count] *US* : a brief storm with lightning and thunder : a brief thunderstorm • *Thundershowers* are forecast for tomorrow.

thun-der-storm /'θʌndə,stoəm/ *noun*, *pl* **-storms** [count] : a storm with lightning and thunder • There are *thunderstorms* in the forecast. • The weather service has issued a severe *thunderstorm* warning.

thun-der-struck /'θʌndə,straɪk/ *adj* : feeling sudden and great surprise or shock • She was *thunderstruck* when her parents told her she was adopted.

thun-dery /'θʌndəri/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *Brit* : producing or likely to produce thunder • *thundery* showers • *thundery* [=stormy] weather

thunk /'θʌŋk/ *noun* [singular] *chiefly US* : a dull, hollow sound made especially when a heavy object hits something • The book landed on the floor with a *thunk*.

Thurs. or Thur. *abbr* Thursday

Thurs-day /'θəz,dei/ *noun*, *pl* **-days** : the day between Wednesday and Friday [count] He was late last *Thursday*. • (*Brit*) We went on the *Thursday* and returned on the *Saturday*. • The class meets on *Thursdays*. [=every Thursday] [noncount] We went on *Thursday* and returned on *Saturday*. • She will arrive on *Thursday*. = (*US*) She will arrive *Thursday*. — *abbr.* *Thurs.* or *Thur.* or *Th.*

— **Thurs-days** /'θəz,deɪz/ *adv* • The class meets *Thursdays*. [=every Thursday]

thus /'ðʌs/ *adv*, *formal*

1 **a** : in this way or manner : like this • The judge expressed it *thus*: "Our obligation is to discover the truth." **b** : by so doing • I took her shift, *thus* enabling her to have the night off. [=I enabled her to have the night off by taking her shift] **2** : because of this : THEREFORE • This detergent is highly concentrated and *thus* you will need to dilute it. • *Thus*, we conclude . . .

thus far see ¹FAR

thwack /'θwæk/ *verb* **thwacks**; **thwacked**; **thwack-ing** [+ *obj*] : to hit (someone or something) hard with a loud sound • A book fell off the shelf and *thwacked* me on the head.

— **thwack** *noun*, *pl* **thwacks** [count] • I gave the ball a good *thwack*. [=I hit the ball hard] • The book hit the floor with a loud *thwack*.

thwart /'θwoʊt/ *verb* **thwarts**; **thwart-ed**; **thwart-ing** [+ *obj*] : to prevent (someone) from doing something or to stop (something) from happening • She did all she could to *thwart* his plans. • The army *thwarted* the attempt at a coup. — often used as (*be*) *thwarted* • The plot was *thwarted*. • He was *thwarted* in his evil plans. • *thwarted* ambition/hopes

thy /'ðai/ *adj*, *old-fashioned* + *literary* : YOUR — used when speaking to a single person • "... thou shalt love *thy* neighbor as thyself." —Leviticus 19:18 (KJV)

thyme /'taɪm/ *noun* [noncount] : a sweet-smelling herb with small leaves that is used in cooking — see color picture on page C6

thy-roid /'θai,roid/ *noun*, *pl* **-roids** [count] *medical* : a small gland in the neck that affects growth • an overactive/underactive *thyroid* • a *thyroid* condition — called also *thyroid gland*

thy-self /'ðai'self/ *pronoun*, *old-fashioned* + *literary* : YOURSELF — used when speaking to a single person • "... Physician, heal *thyself*..." —Luke 4:23 (KJV) • Know *thyself*.

ti /'ti:/ *noun* [noncount] : the seventh note of a musical scale • do, re, mi, fa, sol, la, *ti*

ti-ara /ti'era/, *Brit* ti'a:rə/ *noun*, *pl* **-aras** [count]

1 : a crown worn by the pope

2 : a small crown that is decorated with jewels and that is worn by women or girls on special occasions • a diamond *ti-ara*

tib-ia /'tɪbiə/ *noun*, *pl* **tib-i-ae** /'tɪbi,i:/ or **tib-i-as** [count] *medical* : the bone that forms the front part of the leg between the knee and the ankle — called also *shinbone*; see picture at HUMAN

tic /'tɪk/ *noun*, *pl* **tics** [count]

1 : a small repeated movement of a muscle especially in the

face that cannot be controlled • a facial *tic*

2 : a word or phrase that someone frequently says or an action that someone frequently does without intending to • a nervous *tic* • The verbal *tic* "you know" often occurs in her speech.

¹tick /'tɪk/ *noun*

1 [*singular*] : a small, quick sound that is made by a machine (such as a clock) and that often occurs in a series to produce a rhythm • the *tick* of a clock

2 [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : the time that it takes a clock to make one tick : a very short period of time • I'll be there in a *tick*. [=second] • Give me two *ticks* to get ready.

3 [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : a mark ✓ that is used to show that something (such as an item on a list) has been noted, done, etc. : CHECK • Put a *tick* next to your name.

— compare ³TICK, ⁴TICK

²tick *verb* *ticks; ticked; tick-ing*

1 [*no obj*] : to make a small, quick, and often rhythmic tapping sound • I could hear the clock *tick/ticking*.

2 [*no obj*] : to continue to work or function in a normal way : RUN • His old heart is still *ticking*.

3 [*+ obj*] *chiefly Brit* : to mark (something) with a written tick (✓) : CHECK • *Tick* the box next to your choice. — often + *off* • *Tick off* your choice below. • You're coming? Okay, I'll *tick* you *off* (on my list). [=I'll put a tick/check next to your name on my list]

4 [*+ obj*] : to touch (something) quickly or lightly • The bat *ticked* the ball.

tick away/by/past [*phrasal verb*] *of time* : to pass or go by • Time is *ticking away*. • She became impatient as the hours *ticked by*.

tick off [*phrasal verb*] **1** *tick (someone) off or tick off (someone)* *a US, informal* : to make (someone) angry • He really *ticks* me *off* sometimes. • She was *ticked off* by the rude salesclerk. **b** *Brit* : to criticize (someone) strongly : to tell (someone) in an angry way that he or she did something wrong • His mother *ticked* him *off* for his behavior. **2** *tick (someone or something) off or tick off (someone or something)* *a US* : to say the name of (someone or something) as part of a list • Her parents *ticked off* [=listed] all the reasons she should not have stayed out late. **b** : to count or mark things as they pass • We are *ticking off* the days until vacation. — see also ²TICK 3 (above)

tick over [*phrasal verb*] **1** *chiefly Brit, of a vehicle's engine* : to run at a very low speed **2** *Brit* : to run or proceed in a steady but slow way • "How's business?" "Oh, just *ticking over*."

what makes someone tick informal : the things that cause someone to behave a certain way : the feelings, opinions, concerns, etc., that are parts of someone's personality • I've always wondered *what makes* people like that *tick*. • It's hard to say *what makes* him *tick*.

³tick *noun, pl ticks* [*count*] : a very small insect that attaches itself to the skin of larger animals or people and drinks their blood — see also DEER TICK — compare ¹TICK, ⁴TICK

⁴tick *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit, old-fashioned* : an agreement to pay for something after a period of time : CREDIT • She bought her supplies *on tick*. [=she promised to pay for the supplies later] — compare ¹TICK, ³TICK



tick

ticked /'tɪkt/ or **ticked off** *adj, not*

used before a noun, US, informal : very angry or upset • I was so *ticked*. • She was pretty *ticked off* about what he said. — often + *at* • I was so *ticked off* at him.

tick-er /'tɪkə/ *noun, pl -ers* [*count*]

1 *a* : a machine that receives and prints out stock prices and other news on long, thin pieces of paper • The news came over the *ticker*. **b** : a narrow area that shows information across the top or bottom of a television or computer screen

2 *informal* : HEART • Exercise is good for your/the *ticker*.

ticker tape *noun* [*noncount*] : long, thin pieces of paper on which news and stock prices are printed by a special machine (called a ticker)

ticker-tape parade *noun, pl ~ -rades* [*count*] *US* : a parade in which small pieces of paper are thrown into the air to celebrate something, welcome someone, etc. • The astronauts were given a *ticker-tape parade* through the streets of New York.

¹tick-et /'tɪkət/ *noun, pl -ets*

1 [*count*] : a piece of paper that allows you to see a show, participate in an event, travel on a vehicle, etc. • May I see your *tickets*, please? = *Tickets*, please. • We bought *tickets* for/to the opera. • a movie/concert *ticket* • a bus/train *ticket* • She bought a *one-way ticket* to New York. [=a ticket that allows her to travel to New York] • (US) a *round-trip ticket* = (Brit) a *return ticket* [=a ticket that allows you to travel to one place and then return back to the place you left] — see also SEASON TICKET

2 [*count*] : a card or piece of paper that shows that you are participating in a contest, raffle, etc. • a winning lottery *ticket* — see also SCRATCH TICKET

3 [*count*] : a piece of paper that officially tells you that you have driven or parked your car improperly and that you will have to pay a fine • I got a *ticket* for speeding. — see also PARKING TICKET, SPEEDING TICKET

4 [*count*] *Brit* : a piece of paper that is attached to an item in a store and that gives information about its price, size, etc. • a price *ticket* [=tag]

5 [*singular*] *chiefly US* : a list of the candidates supported by a political party in an election • The senator heads her party's *ticket*. [=she is the leader of her party in the election] • the Republican/Democratic *ticket* — see also SPLIT TICKET, *split the ticket* at ¹SPLIT

6 [*singular*] : something that makes it possible to get or achieve something that you want • She believed that education was the/her *ticket* to a good job. • He expected the novel to be his *ticket* to fame and fortune. • This job could be their *ticket* out of poverty. — see also MEAL TICKET

7 the ticket informal + somewhat old-fashioned : the correct or most desirable thing : the thing that is needed or wanted • Compromise, now *that's the ticket*. [=that's what we need] — often used in the phrase *just the ticket* • For a romantic dinner, candles are *just the ticket*.

write your own ticket see WRITE

— see also HOT TICKET

²ticket *verb* *-ets; -et-ed; -et-ing* [*+ obj*]

1 *chiefly US* : to give (a driver) a ticket for driving or parking improperly • He was *ticketed* for speeding.

2 : to give or sell a ticket to (someone) • methods used for *ticketing* airline passengers

3 *US* : to give (someone or something) a specific purpose or destination — usually used as (be) *ticketed* • The building has *been ticketed* [=designated] for renovations. • a baseball player *ticketed* for the minor leagues [=a baseball player who is being sent to the minor leagues]

— **ticketing** *noun* [*noncount*] • Most airlines now allow electronic *ticketing*.

ticket office *noun, pl ~ -fices* [*count*] : a place where you can buy tickets to travel on a bus, to see a play, to go to a concert, etc.

ticket tout *noun, pl ~ touts* [*count*] *Brit* : a person who buys tickets for an event and resells them at a much higher price : SCALPER

tick-ing /'tɪkɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a strong type of cloth that is often used as a covering for mattresses and pillows

tick-le /'tɪkəl/ *verb* *tick-les; tick-led; tick-ling*

1 [*+ obj*] : to try to make (someone) laugh by lightly touching a very sensitive part of the body with your fingers, a feather, etc. • Her little brother screamed with laughter as she *tickled* him.

2 : to have or cause a slightly uncomfortable feeling on a part of your body [*+ obj*] The tag on the sweater *tickled* his neck. [*no obj*] My nose started to *tick*. • Don't touch me there; it *tickles*.

3 [*+ obj*] : to please or amuse (someone or something) • The food will *tick*le your taste buds. [=you'll enjoy the taste of the food] • We were *tickled* by the invitation. • The idea of going to the party *tickled* her.

tickled pink informal : very happy or amused • I was *tickled pink* to see her.

tickle the *ivories* see IVORY

tickle your *fancy informal* : to interest or attract you • Do you see anything on the menu that *tickles* your *fancy*?

tickle your *funny bone* see FUNNY BONE

— **tick**le *noun, pl tickles* [*count*] • He gave her neck a *tick*le. [=he tickled her neck] • He felt a *tick*le in his throat. — **tick-ler** /'tɪkələ/ *noun, pl -lers* [*count*]

tick-lish /'tɪklɪʃ/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 : sensitive and easily tickled • My feet are very *ticklish*. • I'm very *ticklish*.

2 : difficult to deal with : requiring special care • Religion can be a very *ticklish* [=sensitive, touchy] subject.

tic-tac-toe or **tick-tack-toe** /ˈtɪk,tækˈtoʊ/ *noun* [non-count] *US* : a game in which one player draws Xs and another player draws Os inside a set of nine squares and each player tries to be the first to fill a row of squares with either Xs or Os — called also (*Brit*) *noughts and crosses*

tid-al /ˈtaɪdəl/ *adj* : of or relating to tides : rising and falling at regular times • *tidal* currents

tidal wave *noun*, *pl* ~ **waves** [count]

1 : a very high, large wave in the ocean that is often caused by strong winds or an earthquake : TSUNAMI

2 : a very large amount of something • a *tidal wave* of emotion/tourists

tid-bit (*US*) /ˈtɪd,bɪt/ or *Brit* **tit-bit** /ˈtɪt,bɪt/ *noun*, *pl* -bits [count]

1 : a small piece of food • tasty *tidbits*

2 : a small piece of news or interesting information • I just heard a juicy *tidbit* about your brother. • *tidbits* of gossip

tid-dler /ˈtɪdɪlər/ *noun*, *pl* **tid-dlers** [count] *Brit*, *informal*

1 : a small fish

2 : a small and unimportant person or thing • The company is no *tiddler*.

tid-dly-winks /ˈtɪdli,wɪŋks/ also *US* **tid-dle-dy-winks** /ˈtɪdli,wɪŋks/ *noun* [noncount] : a children's game in which players make small discs jump into a small container by pressing on them with another disc

¹ tide /ˈtaɪd/ *noun*, *pl* **tides**

1 a [count] : the regular upward and downward movement of the level of the ocean that is caused by the pull of the Sun and the Moon on the Earth • a chart of the *tides* • Is the *tide* coming in or going out? = Is the *tide* rising or falling? — see also EBB TIDE, FLOOD TIDE, HIGH TIDE, LOW TIDE, RIPTIDE

b [singular] : the flow of the ocean's water as the tide rises or falls • The boat got swept away in/by the *tide*.

2 [singular] : the way in which something is changing or developing • We tried to gauge the *tide* of public opinion. [=to find out how public opinion was changing] • the *tide* of history • The team was on a losing streak, but then *the tide turned* [=their luck changed] and they went on to win the championship.

3 [singular] : something that increases over time — + *of* • The government is dealing with a rising/swelling/growing *tide* of criticism over its foreign policy. • They are concerned about the rising *tide* of crime [=the increasing amount of crime] in the city. • We have to do something to *stem the tide* of violence. [=to stop the violence from continuing and increasing]

go/swim with/against the tide ✧ If you *go/swim with/against the tide*, you think or behave in a way that agrees/disagrees with how most other people think or behave. • Politically, she tends to *go against the tide* on her college campus. [=she tends to have different political opinions than most people on her college campus]

² tide *verb* **tides; tid-ed; tid-ing**

tide over [phrasal verb] *tide* (someone) *over* : to give (someone) what is needed to get through a short period of time • My parents lent us some money to *tide* us *over* for a while. • He had a snack to *tide* himself *over* until dinner.

tide-mark /ˈtaɪd,mɑːk/ *noun*, *pl* -marks [count]

1 chiefly *Brit* : a mark on the beach that shows how far the water came in toward the shore when the tide was high

2 *Brit*, *informal* : a mark left by dirty water in a bathtub

tide pool *noun*, *pl* ~ **pools** [count] *US* : an area of water that is left on a beach after the tide has fallen

tide-water /ˈtaɪd,wɑːtə/ *noun*, *pl* -ters

1 [noncount] : water that flows over land during high tide

2 [count] *US* : an area of land along the coast

tid-ings /ˈtaɪdɪŋz/ *noun* [plural] *old-fashioned* : NEWS • good/glad *tidings*

¹ ti-dy /ˈtaɪdi/ *adj* **ti-di-er; -est** [also more ~; most ~]

1 : clean and organized : not messy • She keeps her desk *tidy*. [=neat] • a *tidy* kitchen • The house is *neat and tidy*. [=clean and organized]

2 : keeping things clean and organized • He has always been a *tidy* person.

3 *informal*, *of an amount of money* : fairly large • She earns a *tidy* salary. • They paid a *tidy* sum for the house.

² tidy *verb* -dies; -died; -dy-ing : to make (something) tidy : to make (something) clean and organized [+ *obj*] I *tidied* the house before they arrived. — usually + *up* • We need to *tidy up* the house. [no *obj*] — + *up* • I didn't have time to *tidy*

up. • I'm tired of always *tidying up after* you. [=cleaning up your messes]

tidy away [phrasal verb] *tidy* (something) *away* or *tidy away* (something) *Brit* : to put (something) in its proper place in order to make a place tidy • I *tidied* all the loose papers *away* before the guests arrived.

³ tidy *noun*, *pl* -dies [count] *Brit* : a container for storing small items • a desk/sink/car *tidy*

¹ tie /ˈtaɪ/ *verb* **ties; tied; ty-ing** /ˈtaɪɪŋ/

1 a [+ *obj*] : to attach (someone or something) *to* something with a string, rope, etc. • His kidnappers *tied* him *to* a chair. She *tied* (up) the dog *to* a post and went into the store. **b** [+ *obj*] : to pass (something, such as a string, ribbon, or rope) around itself in a way that attaches it to something or holds it in place : to make a knot or bow in (something) • He *tied* (up) his shoelaces/necktie. • She *tied* a scarf around her neck. • He *tied* the ropes together. [=he attached the ropes to each other by tying a knot] • She wrapped a ribbon around the box and *tied a bow*. [=made a bow] • She *tied knots* in the rope. — often + *to* • He *tied* the rope *to* a tree branch. • I *tied* the dog's leash *to* a post and went into the store. — sometimes used figuratively • At the end of the book, she *ties together* the separate plots of the story. **c** : to close or hold (something) with a string, rope, etc., that is attached to it or wrapped around it [+ *obj*] You need to *tie* your shoe. • The butcher *tied* (up) the package with string. • His hands and feet had been *tied* together. • *Tie* your hair back (in a ponytail) so it won't fall in your face. • She *tied* the apron loosely around her waist. [no *obj*] The apron *ties* (up) in the back. — see also *hands are tied* at ¹HAND

2 a : to make the score of a game or contest equal [+ *obj*] She *tied* (up) the score with a late goal. • He can *tie* (up) the game with a home run. [no *obj*] The team still has a chance *to tie*. **b** [no *obj*] : to end a game, race, etc., with the same score or in the same position as another person or team • He *tied* for first/second place. [=he and another competitor both finished with the same score in first/second place] **c** [+ *obj*] : to achieve the same score, time, etc., as (a person, a record, etc.) • I had the lead but he *tied* me by making a birdie on the last hole. • Her time *tied* the world record. • He *tied* the school's record in the high jump.

3 [+ *obj*] : to connect (someone or something) *to* another person or thing — usually used as (be) *tied to* • He argues that poverty *is* closely *tied to* poor health. [=that poverty and poor health are closely related/connected] • The rise in crime has *been tied* [=linked] *to* drug dealing. • The rate of production *is tied to* consumer demand. [=the rate of production depends on consumer demand] • The prices of Web ads *are tied to* the number of visitors the sites have.

4 [+ *obj*] : to cause or require (someone) to be somewhere, do something, etc. • He has responsibilities that *tie* him *to* this area. [=that prevent him from leaving this area] — often used as (be) *tied to* • She was tired of *being tied to* the same routine. [=of always having the same routine] • He *was tied to* his desk all day. [=he had to work at his desk all day] • I didn't want *to be tied to* driving her to work every day.

fit to be tied see ¹FIT

tie down [phrasal verb] **1 tie** (something or someone) *down* or **tie down** (something or someone) : to attach (something or someone) especially to a flat surface by using string, rope, etc. • A storm was coming, so the captain ordered us *to tie everything down*. • She *tied down* the flaps of the tent. • They had him *tied down* on a stretcher. **2 tie** (someone) *down* or **tie down** (someone) : to limit the freedom of (someone) • Having a family *ties* people *down*. • She doesn't want *to tie herself down* to a schedule. — often used as (be) *tied down* • You're too young *to be tied down* with so much responsibility.

tie in [phrasal verb] **1** : to be related or connected to something — + *to* or *with* • The book's illustrations *tie in to/with* the story very well. **2 tie in** (something) or **tie** (something) *in* : to connect (something) to something else — + *to* or *with* • The teacher *tied in* what we learned last week *with* today's lesson. • The publication of the senator's book was *tied in to* his announcement that he will run for president. — see also TIE-IN

tie off [phrasal verb] **tie off** (something) or **tie** (something) *off* **1** : to fasten or hold (something) by tying a knot or bow at its end • I finished knitting the last row and *tied off* the yarn. **2** : to close (something) with string, thread, etc. • The surgeon *tied off* the vein.

tie one on *US*, *informal* + *old-fashioned* : to become drunk • He really *tied one on* last night.

tie on the feedbag see FEEDBAG

tie the knot see ¹KNOT

tie up [phrasal verb] **1** *tie up or tie (something) up or tie up (something)* : to become attached or to attach (something) to a fixed object with a string, rope, etc. • They *tied* (the boat) *up* and jumped out. • The ferry *ties up* at the south slip. **2** *tie (something) up or tie up (something)* **a** : to deal with (something) in order to complete something • The project is almost finished, but we still have a few final details to *tie up*. = We still have to *tie up some loose ends*. • The writer *ties up all the loose ends* at the end of the story. **b** *US* : to prevent the use or progress of (something) • He *tied up* the phone for an hour. [=he used the phone for an hour and other people could not use it] • Traffic was *tied up* [=backed up] for hours/miles. **3** *tie up (money) in (something) or tie (money) up in (something)* : to invest (money) in (something) in a way that prevents it from being used for some other purpose • They *tied up* all of their money *in* their new business. — usually used as (be) *tied up in* • The money was *tied up in* stocks. **4** *tie up with (something) or be tied up with (something)* : to be connected or related to (something) • Today's lesson *tied up with* what was taught yesterday. • My life is *tied up with* hers. **5** *tie (someone) up or tie up (someone)* **a** : to tie rope, tape, etc., around the body, arms, or legs of (someone) in order to keep that person from moving or escaping • The robbers *tied up* the clerk. **b** : to prevent (someone) from doing other things or from going to a particular place • Meetings *tied me up* for most of the afternoon. — usually used as (be) *tied up* • She was *tied up* in traffic. • I'd like to help but I'm a bit *tied up* at the moment. — see also ¹TIE 1, 2 (above), TIE-UP

tie yourself (up) in knots see ¹KNOT

²**tie** *noun, pl ties* [count]

1 : NECKTIE • He was wearing a suit and *tie*. • You have a spot on your *tie*. — see also BOW TIE

2 : a piece of string, ribbon, cord, etc., that is used for fastening, joining, or closing something • The pants have a *tie* at the top. — see also TWIST TIE

3 **a** : something (such as an idea, interest, experience, or feeling) that is shared by people or groups and that forms a connection between them — usually plural • family *ties* • political/economic/cultural *ties* • the *ties* of friendship • The company has close *ties* to conservative groups. • Recent events have strengthened/cemented the *ties* between our two countries. • She has severed all *ties* with the company. • The experience loosened the *ties* that bind (us together). **b** : a responsibility that limits a person's freedom to do other things • He was not ready to accept the *ties* of family life.

4 **a** : the final result of a game, contest, etc., in which two or more people or teams finish with the same number of points, votes, etc. — usually singular • The game ended in a *tie*. = The game was a *tie*. [=both teams/players had the same score at the end of the game] • They played to a 3–3 *tie*. [=each team/player had 3 points when the game ended] • There was a *tie* for second place. **b** : a situation in which two or more people or teams have the same number of points, votes, etc., in a game or contest — usually singular • She broke the *tie* with a goal in the final seconds of the match. • a *tie* score

5 *US* : one of the heavy pieces of wood to which the rails of a railroad are fastened — called also (Brit) *sleeper*

6 *Brit, sports* : a match in a sports competition (such as a soccer or tennis tournament) in which the loser is eliminated • They won the *tie* in the first round and went on to win the cup.

tie-back /'taɪ,bæk/ *noun, pl -backs* [count] : a cord or piece of cloth, metal, etc., that is used for holding a curtain to the side of a window

tie-break *noun, pl -breaks* [count] *sports* : a tiebreaker in tennis • She won the *tie-break*.

tie-break-er /'taɪ,breɪkə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count] : something (such as an extra period of play or an extra question) that is used to decide a winner when a game, contest, etc., has ended with a tied score

tied /'taɪd/ *adj* : having an equal number of points in a contest • The teams were *tied* 7–7 at the end of the first quarter. • The candidates are presently *tied* in the polls. : having an equal number of points for each side • The score was *tied* (at) 7–7. • It was a *tied* [=tie] game at the end of the first half.

tie-dye /'taɪ,dai/ *verb -dye; -dyed; -dyeing* [+ *obj*] : to decorate (fabric or clothing) by tying parts of the fabric with knots, strings, etc., and soaking it in often several different

colors of dye • We *tie-dyed* our T-shirts.

– **tie-dyed** *adj* • a *tie-dyed* shirt – **tie-dye-ing** /'taɪ,dajɪŋ/ *noun* [noncount]

tie-in /'taɪ,ɪn/ *noun, pl -ins* [count] : a product (such as a toy) that is connected with a movie, television show, etc. — see also *tie in* at ¹TIE

tie-pin /'taɪ,pɪn/ *noun, pl -pins* [count] : a decorative pin that is used to hold the ends of a necktie in place

tier /'tiə/ *noun, pl tiers* [count]

1 : a row or layer of things that is above another row or layer • We were seated in the theater's top *tier*.

2 : a particular level in a group, organization, etc. • top *tier* colleges [=the best or most expensive colleges] • the lowest *tier* of management

tiered /'tiəd/ *adj* : arranged in layers or tiers • The hors d'oeuvres were served on *tiered* platters. — usually used in combination • a three-*tiered* cake • a two-*tiered* justice system that treats poor and wealthy people differently

tie tack *noun, pl ~ tacks* [count] *US* : a short pin with a separate back or clasp that fastens behind a necktie

tie-up /'taɪ,ʌp/ *noun, pl -ups* [count]

1 *chiefly US* : a situation in which something (such as traffic) becomes very slow or stops because of a problem, accident, etc. • An overturned truck caused a traffic *tie-up* for miles.

2 *chiefly Brit* **a** : a close connection between people or things • the *tie-up* [=link] between poverty and poor health

b : an agreement to do business together • There are rumors of a proposed *tie-up* between the two companies. — see also *tie up* at ¹TIE

tiff /'tɪf/ *noun, pl tiffs* [count] : a small fight or argument about something that is not important • She got into a *tiff* [=quarrel] with her boyfriend. • a *tiff* over money

ti-ger /'taɪgə/ *noun, pl -gers* [count]

1 **a** : a large, wild cat that has a coat of usually yellow or orange fur and black stripes and that lives in Asia — see picture at CAT **b** : a striped cat that lives with people — called also *tiger cat*

2 : a person who is very fierce or aggressive • He was a *tiger* on the basketball court. — see also PAPER TIGER

– **ti-ger-ish** /'taɪgəriʃ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

¹**tight** /'taɪt/ *adj tight-er; -est*

1 : difficult to move : fastened, attached, or held in a position that is not easy to move • The lid is too *tight*. I can't loosen it. • She made a *tight* knot in the rope. • Keep a *tight* grip/hold on his hand when you cross the street. — opposite LOOSE

2 : fitting very close to your body • *tight* [=snug] T-shirts • a *tight* pair of jeans = a pair of *tight* jeans • These shoes are too *tight*. [=they are too small] • a *tight* bandage — opposite LOOSE; see also SKINTIGHT

3 : flat or firm from being pulled or stretched • a *tight* wire/string • Pull the ribbon *tight* and make a bow. — opposite LOOSE

4 : tense or stiff : not relaxed • Her muscles were *tight*. • His throat/chest felt *tight*. • a *tight* smile • She answered in a *tight* voice. — opposite LOOSE

5 : hard and muscular • an athlete with a *tight* stomach/body • He has *tight* abs.

6 : having parts that are very close together • The cat was curled into a *tight* ball. • a fabric with a *tight* weave • The swimming goggles should create a *tight* seal around your eyes. — see also AIRTIGHT, WATERTIGHT

7 : not having or allowing much room • Space was *tight* at their first home. [=their first home was small; they did not have much room] • There's a *tight* space you can crawl through underneath the house. • The tunnel gets pretty *tight* up ahead. • We got everything into the suitcase, but it was a *tight* squeeze. [=the suitcase was very full/packed]

8 : not having or allowing much time • We are on a *tight* schedule. • The project has a very *tight* deadline. • Time was *tight*, so we couldn't stay long.

9 : close or equal in score, progress, or ability • It was a very *tight* race/game. • It was one of the *tightest* presidential elections in history. • The teams play in a *tight* division.

10 : not allowing much freedom : strict about controlling what happens • She kept a *tight* hand on the business. [=she controlled the business in a very strict way] • The mayor put *tighter* security in place for the concert. • He has people working for him, but he *has/keeps a tight rein* on every part of the process.

11 : difficult or awkward • You've put me in a *tight* spot. [=a difficult position] • They were in a *tight* spot financially.

[=they did not have much money; they were having financial problems]

12 a : low in supply : not easily available • We can't afford a vacation right now because money is *tight*. [=scarce] • Jobs are *tight* right now. [=there are not many jobs available right now] **b** — used to describe a situation that is difficult because there is not enough of something • Things have been a little *tight* [=money has been scarce] since I lost my job. • a *tight* job market [=a situation in which there are few jobs]

13 informal + usually disapproving : not giving or spending money freely : stingy or cheap • He's pretty *tight* with his money.

14 : having a close personal or professional relationship • We've been *tight* [=very friendly] for a long time. • a *tight* group of friends — often + *with* • She's *tight* with the boss.

15 : curving or changing direction suddenly • There is a *tight* [=sharp] bend in the road up ahead. • Make a *tight* right turn at the traffic light.

16 informal + old-fashioned : very drunk • getting *tight* at a bar

run a tight ship see ¹SHIP

— **tight-ly** *adv* • The shirt fits too *tightly* around the arms. • The luggage was secured *tightly* to the top of the car. • Hold on *tightly* to the railing. • shelves packed *tightly* with books • a *tightly* knit [=tight-knit] family — **tight-ness** *noun* [non-count] • He felt some muscle *tightness* in his back.

2tight *adv* : in a tight way • Hold on *tight*. • Is the door shut *tight*? • She screwed the cap on *tight*. • Don't close the lid so *tight*. • We were packed as *tight* as sardines on the bus.

hang tight see ¹HANG

sit tight see SIT

sleep tight see ¹SLEEP

tight-en /'taɪtn/ *verb* -ens; -ened; -en-ing : to make (something) tight or tighter or to become tight or tighter [+ *obj*] I'll *tighten* the screw. • She *tightened* her hold on the handle. [no *obj*] His jaw muscles *tightened*.

tighten the noose see NOOSE

tighten the screws see ¹SCREW

tighten up [phrasal verb] *tighten up* or *tighten (something) up* or *tighten up (something)* : to become more strict or effective or to make (something) more strict or effective • Security around the building has *tightened up* recently. • They *tightened up* security around the building. • We installed new machines to *tighten up* the assembly line.

tighten your belt see ¹BELT

tight end *noun*, *pl* ~ **ends** [count] *American football* : a player on the offensive team who plays in a position on the line of scrimmage and who blocks and sometimes catches passes

tight-fist-ed /'taɪt'fɪstəd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *disapproving* : not wanting to give or spend money : stingy or cheap • The company's *tightfisted* owner won't raise the workers' salaries.

tight-knit /'taɪt'nɪt/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] — used to describe a group of people who care about each other and who are very friendly with each other • We are a *tight-knit* [=close-knit] family/community.

tight-lipped /'taɪt'lipt/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : not willing to speak about something • He remained *tight-lipped* about his plans. • *tight-lipped* witnesses

2 : having your lips pressed tightly together because you are thinking hard, angry, etc. • He was *tight-lipped* in concentration.

tight-rope /'taɪt,roup/ *noun*, *pl* -ropes [count] : a tightly stretched rope or wire high above the ground that a performer walks on, does tricks on, etc., especially in a circus • a *tightrope* walker — often used figuratively to describe a dangerous or uncertain situation in which you have to be very careful not to make mistakes • As soldiers during the war, we *walked a tightrope* between life and death every day. • The writer manages to *walk a tightrope* between good humor and poor taste.

tights /'taɪts/ *noun* [plural]

1 : a piece of clothing that is worn especially by girls, women, and dancers, that fits closely over the feet, legs, and waist, and that is made of a thicker material than pantyhose — see color picture on page C13

2 Brit : PANTYHOSE

tight-wad /'taɪt,wɑ:d/ *noun*, *pl* -wads [count] *informal + disapproving* : a person who does not like to spend or give money • Her husband's such a *tightwad* that he never wants to go out to dinner.

ti-gress /'taɪgrəs/ *noun*, *pl* -gress-es [count] : a female tiger

tike *variant spelling of* TYKE

ti-ki bar /'ti:ki-/ *noun*, *pl* ~ bars [count] *US* : a bar or restaurant that is decorated in a Polynesian style

'til or **til** *variant spellings of* ¹TILL, ²TILL

til-de /'tɪldə/ *noun*, *pl* -des [count] : a mark ~ used in some languages (such as Spanish and Portuguese) to show that the letter *n* is pronounced /nj/ or that a vowel is pronounced in a different way

1tile /'taɪəl/ *noun*, *pl* tiles

1 a : a usually flat piece of hard clay, stone, or other material that is used for covering walls, floors, etc. [count] decorative ceramic tiles [noncount] We installed new *tile* in the kitchen. **b** [count, noncount] : a curved piece of hard clay that is used for covering roofs

2 [count] : a small, flat piece that is used in some board games

on the tiles *Brit, informal* : drinking, dancing, etc., until late at night • She came back late after a night *on the tiles*.

2tile *verb* tiles; tiled; til-ing [+ *obj*] : to cover (something) with tiles • We hired him to *tile* the bathroom floor.

— **tiled** *adj* • a *tiled* roof — **til-er** *noun*, *pl* -ers [count] • He's a professional carpenter and *tiler*.

1till or **'til** also **til** /'tɪl, təl/ *prep* : UNTIL • We won't finish *till* next week. • Wait *till* next year. • The event doesn't start *till* tomorrow.

2till or **'til** also **til** *conj* : UNTIL • They kept playing *till* it got dark. • He spun around *till* he was dizzy.

3till /'tɪl/ *verb* tills; tilled; till-ing [+ *obj*] : to prepare (soil, a piece of land, etc.) for growing crops • The farmers are *tilling* the soil.

— **till-able** /'tɪləbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] • This land is not *tillable*. [=not suitable for growing crops]

4till *noun*, *pl* tills [count]

1 : a drawer for keeping money in a store or bank

2 Brit : CASH REGISTER

in the till ♦ To *have/put your hand(s) in the till* is to steal money from the place where you work. • He was accused of *putting his hand in the till*. • She was *caught with her hands in the till*.

till-age /'tɪldʒ/ *noun* [noncount] : the activity or process of preparing land for growing crops • *tillage* tools/equipment/methods

1til-er /'tɪlə/ *noun*, *pl* -ers [count]

1 : a person who tills land

2 : a tool used for preparing land for growing crops

— compare ²TILLER

2til-ler /'tɪlə/ *noun*, *pl* -lers [count] : a handle that is used to steer a boat by turning the rudder — compare ¹TILLER

1tilt /'tɪlt/ *verb* tilts; tilt-ed; tilt-ing

1 a : to lift or move (something) so that one side is higher than another side [+ *obj*] *Tilt* the glass as you pour in the beer. • The picture on the wall was *tilted*. [=it was not straight or level] [no *obj*] The steering wheel can *tilt* downward. **b** [+ *obj*] : to move (your head, chin, etc.) up, down, or to one side • *Tilt* your head back. • *Tilt* your chin up. • She *tilted* her head and looked questioningly at him. • Her head was *tilted* to the side.

2 : to influence (something) or to change so that a particular result or occurrence is more likely, a particular group is favored, etc. [+ *obj*] Rising inflation could *tilt* the economy into/toward a recession. • The quarterback's injury could *tilt* (the outcome of) the game in the other team's favor. [=could make it more likely that the other team will win] • His election *tilted* the city council to the left/right. [=made the city council more liberal/conservative] • The law *tilts the balance of power* towards corporations. [=the law gives corporations more power] [no *obj*] The economy could be *tilting* into/toward a recession.

tilt at [phrasal verb] **1 tilt at (someone or something)** *Brit* : to attack (someone or something) in writing or speech • critics *tilting at* [=criticizing] the established system **2 tilt at windmills** : to use time and energy to attack an enemy or problem that is not real or important

2tilt *noun*, *pl* tilts [count]

1 : the state of having one side higher than the other • The picture is at a slight *tilt*. [=is slightly tilted] • He gave a *tilt* of his head. [=he tilted his head]

2 a : the state of favoring one person, belief, etc., over another • She criticized the media's *tilt* [=bias] toward one of the candidates. • a politician with a socialist *tilt* [=who tends

to have socialist ideas] **b** : a change of the actions or opinions of a person or group in a particular direction • If he were elected, there would be a *tilt* [=shift] in the political balance of the city council. [=the city council would become more liberal or conservative]

3 US, informal : a game or competition between two people, teams, etc. • The teams were tied in the standings heading into last night's *tilt*.

4 Brit **a** : an attempt to win something — + *at* • The team wants a *tilt at* the championship. **b** : a written or spoken attack on someone or something — + *at* • a *tilt at* the government

(at) full tilt : as fast as possible : at high speed • The heater has been going *full tilt* all morning. • He ran away *at full tilt*.

tim·ber /ˈtɪmbə/ *noun, pl -bers*

1 [noncount] **a** : trees that are grown in order to produce wood **b** — used as an interjection to warn people nearby that a cut tree is about to fall • They shouted “*Timber!*” as the tree began to fall.

2 [count] : a large piece of wood that is used to form a part of a building • the roof's oak *timbers*

3 [noncount] *chiefly Brit* : wood that is used to make something • a chair made of sturdy *timber* [= (US) *lumber*]

— **timber** *adj* • The house has a *timber* frame. • the *timber* industry

tim·ber·land /ˈtɪmbəˌlənd/ *noun, pl -lands* [*count, non-count*] *US* : land that is covered with trees that are grown in order to produce wood • 40 acres of *timberland*

tim·ber·line /ˈtɪmbəˌlaɪn/ *noun, pl -lines* [*singular*] : an imaginary line on a mountain or high area of land that marks the level above which trees do not grow — called also *tree line*

timber yard *noun, pl ~ yards* [*count*] *Brit* : LUMBERYARD

tim·bre /ˈtæmbə/ *noun, pl -bres* : the quality of the sound made by a particular voice or musical instrument [*count*] the *timbre* of his voice [*noncount*] subtle differences in *timbre*

¹time /ˈtaɪm/ *noun, pl times*

1 [noncount] : the thing that is measured as seconds, minutes, hours, days, years, etc. • The *time* passed slowly/quickly. • The two events were separated by *time* and space. • The poem is a reflection on the passage/passing of *time*. • What was happening at that particular moment in *time*? • At this point in *time*, we have not made a decision. [=we have not yet made a decision] • It has been that way since the beginning of *time*. • If only I could travel back in *time* and do things differently. • They were given a relatively short *amount of time* to finish the job. • The situation has been getting more complicated *as time goes by/on*. • *In the course of time* [=as time passed], people learned to accept the changes. • The medicine is released in small amounts *over time*. [=it is released slowly] • Her condition should improve *with time*. [=it should become better as time passes] • happening for an extended *period of time* • The study took place over a *time span* of 20 years. [=the study continued for 20 years]

2 a [singular] : a particular minute or hour shown by a clock • What *time* is it? = (*chiefly Brit*) What's the *time*? • The *time* is 6:15. [=it is 6:15] • I'll see you tomorrow, same *time*, same place. = I'll see you here this *time* tomorrow. • Would you prefer the meeting to be at an earlier *time*? • Feel free to call me at any *time*, day or night. • What *time* did you leave work? [=when did you leave work?] • They arrived at the appointed/agreed-on *time*. [=hour] • Do you know the *time*? = (*chiefly US*) Do you *have the time*? = (*chiefly Brit*) Have you *got the time*? • (US) What *time do you have*? = (*Brit*) What *time do you make it*? [=what time is it?] • “*Look at the time!* We have to go.” **b [noncount]** : the time in a particular area or part of the world • We'll be arriving at 9:00 a.m. local *time*. • It's 2:00 p.m. Tokyo *time*. — see also BRITISH SUMMER TIME, DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME, GREENWICH MEAN TIME, LOCAL TIME, STANDARD TIME

3 a : the part of a day, week, month, or year when something usually happens or is scheduled to happen [*noncount*] My kids love bath *time*. • It's party *time*! • Test *time* is at 8:00. [=the test will begin at 8:00] • I did some work on my house during my vacation *time*. [*count*] She gave the family some advice on how to make breakfast *times* less hectic. — see also BEDTIME, DINNERTIME, DRIVE TIME, LUNCHTIME, MEALTIME, PLAYTIME, PRIME TIME, TEATIME **b [count]** : a particular part of a day, week, month, or year • He has to go to the classes at certain *times* of the month. • There was snow on the ground at this *time* last year. • It's unusually hot for

this *time of year*. [=season] • My favorite *times of year* are spring and fall. — see also CHRISTMASTIME, DAYTIME, NIGHTTIME, NOONTIME, SPRINGTIME, SUMMERTIME, WINTERTIME

4 [count] : an occurrence of an action or event : an instance of something happening or of someone doing something • She's already seen the movie several *times*. • He told us the story about the *time* he bought his first car. • Do you remember the *time* we got lost in Washington, D.C.? • Take one pill two *times* daily [=take one pill twice each day] for seven days. • This is my first *time* on an airplane. [=I have never been on an airplane before] • He ran for governor for the second *time* in 1980. • I cry *each/every time* [=whenever] I hear that song. • Remember to buckle up your seatbelt *each and every time* you ride in a car. • I'll come by the *next time* I'm in town. • The *last time* I saw him [=the most recent time that I saw him] was at his wedding. • Okay, I'll do it again *one last time*. • *For the last time*, please stop! = This is the last *time* I'm going to tell you: please stop! • Would you please do it *one more time*? [=again, once more] • *How many times* do I have to tell you? I don't know where it is! • I've told you *many times* not to do that. = I've told you *a hundred/thousand/million times* not to do that. • Don't worry about it. We've all made that same mistake *many a time*. = *Many's the time* we have made that same mistake. • “*This time* you've gone too far!” he said. • She beats me at chess *nine times out of ten*. [=for every ten games we play, she beats me nine times] • They may have lost their last championship game, but they're determined to win *the next time around/round*. • We're going to win *this time out*. • *One time* [=once, (more formally) *on one occasion*] I came home two hours late and nobody noticed.

5 a [singular] : the period of time when something happens • I had lived in 12 different cities *by the time* I turned 18. [=when I was 18 years old, I had already lived in 12 different cities] • She had known that she wanted to be President *from the time* [=since] she was seven years old. • *Since that time*, the government has done much to fix the problem. — often used after *at* • If you're busy now, perhaps we can get together *at another time*. • *At no time* did the defendant ask for a lawyer. [=the defendant never asked for a lawyer] • It was raining *at the time* of the accident. [=it was raining when the accident happened] • This information was correct *at the time* of publication. • He was elected pope in 1978, *at which time* he took the name John Paul. — see also AT THE SAME TIME (below), AT TIMES (below) **b [count]** : the exact moment when a particular event happens or is scheduled to happen • *Curtain time* is at 7:30 p.m. [=the performance begins at 7:30 p.m.] • What is the movie's *starting time*? [=when does the movie start?] • The patient's *time of death* was 2:15 a.m. • He called to give me his flights' *departure/arrival times*. [=the times when his flights are scheduled to depart/arrive] • The network moved my favorite television show to a different *time slot*. — see also CLOSING TIME, SHOWTIME

6 : a period of time when a situation or set of conditions exists : a period of minutes, hours, days, weeks, etc., when something is happening or someone is doing something [*count*] I can't remember a *time* that/when I've been happier. • She helped me in my *time* of need. [=she helped me when I needed help] • He is someone you can depend on in *times* of crisis. • He sat down to rest, and after a *time* [=while] he continued on his way. • She served in the military *for a time* in her early twenties. • No one spoke to us the *entire/whole time* we were there. • We will be able to stay here only a *short time*. • I haven't seen you in such a *long time*! • It took them a *long time* to find out what was causing the problem. • His promotion was *a long time coming*. [=he waited a long time to be promoted] • It happened *a long time ago*. — often + *when* • There was a *time when* I thought he would never graduate from college. — often used after *at* • She was calm *at a time when* everyone else was panicking. • Sometimes this helps, while *at other times* it makes things worse. • No more than five people should ride in the car *at any one time*. • There are between 200 and 300 patients in the hospital *at any given time*. • How could you think about food *at a time like this*? • *At one time* [=during one period of time in the past], 20 people lived together in this house. • Everyone has experienced this feeling *at one time or another*. • *At the present time* [=presently, right now], we don't know why it happened. = We don't know why it happened *at this time*. [*noncount*] *Some time ago* [=at some point in the past], I read that the restaurant had closed. • She has been living there *for (quite) some time*. [=for a somewhat long time] • I get sick if I sit in

the back seat of a car **for any length of time**. [=for more than a very small amount of time]

7 [noncount] : the number of minutes, days, years, etc., before something happens : the amount of time it takes for something to happen — usually used after *in* • The movie is coming out *in* two months' *time*. [=it is coming out two months from now] • They expect the system to be completely replaced *in* a few years' *time*. • This machine can have the job finished *in* half the *time* (it would take you to do it by hand). • It can do the job *in* a fraction of the *time*. [=it can do the job much more quickly] • It's just **a matter of time** before someone gets hurt. [=someone will get hurt eventually] • The police will catch him. It's only **a question of time**. [=the police will catch him at some point in the future]

8 [noncount] : the amount of time that is used, needed, available, or allowed for a particular activity or for someone to do something • You must complete the project within the *time* allotted. • I'll try not to take up too much of your *time*. • Thank you for your *time*. [=thank you for listening to me] • It's not worth your *time* and energy. • Is there (enough) *time* to stop for lunch? • What do you do in your *free/spare time*? [=when you are not working] • We played games to **pass/kill the time** on the bus. [=we played games to cause time to seem to go by more quickly] • How much more *time* do we have (left)? = How are we **doing on/for time**? • We're **pressed for time**. [=we don't have much time left to do what we need to do] • We **ran out of time** and didn't finish the project. [=we had no more time to work on the project] • **Time's up**. [=the allowed period of time has ended] Please put down your pencils and hand in your tests. • They finished **with time to spare**. [=they finished early] • We're using up **valuable/precious time** talking when we could be getting started. • The candidates will receive **equal time** to answer questions during the debate. • Her teammates were complaining about their lack of **playing time**. [=the amount of time that they were allowed to play during a game] • Sometimes she would drop by to **pass the time of day**. [=to have a friendly and informal conversation] • She's had a lot of **time on her hands** [=time when she was not busy] lately. • He can't manage to **find (the) time** to exercise. — often used with *save* • This new system will **save time** [=take less time, be faster] and money. • We can **save** a lot of *time* by using this shortcut. — often used with *lose* • They **lost** a lot of *time* getting started. • You'll just have to **make up for lost time** by working harder now. [=you'll have to work faster because you have less time to finish the work] — often used with *spend* • He *spends* all his *time* watching TV. • I'm looking forward to *spending* more *time* at home [=being at home more] with my family. — often used with *waste* • Stop *wasting time* [=doing nothing or doing something that is not useful] and get to work! • They **wasted no time** in decorating their new apartment. [=they started decorating it immediately] • That class was a (big) **waste of time**. [=the class was not good] I didn't learn a thing. — often followed by *to + verb* • If we leave now, there's just (enough) *time to catch* the last show. • There's no *time to explain*. I'll have to tell you why later. • In the *time* it takes you *to read* one chapter, she can read the entire book. • We will have plenty of *time to buy* souvenirs later. • I haven't had much *time to think* about it. • We have to hurry. **There's no time to lose**. [=we have little time, so we cannot waste any of it]

9 : the right moment to do something or for something to happen **[count]** This is no *time* for jokes. • The *time* for talking has passed. We must take action now. • There is a *time* and a place for everything. • Am I calling at a **bad time**? [=are you too busy to talk to me?] • Is this a **good time** for you? • This is **as good a time as any**. • "Should we do it now?" "Sure. **There's no time like the present**." [=let's do it now] — often followed by *to + verb* • Now is the perfect *time to buy* a new car. • Now's not the *time to discuss* such things. — often used with *come* • We feel that the *time* has *come* for a decision to be made. • When the *time comes* to move out of their apartment, they will have saved up enough money to buy a house. • **There comes a time** when children leave their parents and start families of their own. • an idea whose *time has come* [=an idea that is ready to be used] **[noncount]** It's *time to go*. • It is *time* for us *to consider* an alternative.

10 [count] : the quality of a person's experience on a particular occasion or during a particular period • We all had a **good/great/lovely time** at the concert. [=we enjoyed the concert very much] • Did you have a **good time**? • A **good time** was had by all. • Try to remember the **good times** you had together rather than the **bad times**. • Their music helped me get through some **difficult/hard/rough/tough times** in my life.

• He looked like he was **having the time of his life**. [=enjoying himself very much; having a lot of fun] • They've been **having a hard time** finding an apartment in the city.

11 [count] : a specific period in the past • It happens more now than at any other *time* in history. • The writings date back to the *time* of Shakespeare. [=the period of time when Shakespeare was alive] • Like most families at/of/during that *time*, they had only one car. • There was a *time* when people could let their children play outside without worrying about their safety. • He was a famous comedian of the/*that time*. • The bridge was built around the *time* of World War I. • It was the most important book of its *time*. • He is one of the greatest actors of *our time*. [=of the present day] • Life was very different **at that time**. [=then] • People have been creating art since **time immemorial**. [=for a very long time] — often used after *in* • Things were very different *in* your grandparents' *time*. [=day] • I've seen a lot of crazy things *in my time*. [=during my life] • She was **a legend in her own time**. [=she was someone who was very famous and admired while she was still alive] • The tools were known to be in use **in medieval/ancient/prehistoric times**. • **In earlier times**, this road was an important trade route. • farming methods used **in times past** [=in the past] — often used in the titles of books, newspapers, etc. • She was reading the latest issue of the *New York Times*. • The biography was titled *The Life and Times of Napoleon*.

12 times [plural] **a** : the conditions experienced by a group of people now or during a particular period in the past • The country is facing some difficult/trying *times*. • Those were lean *times*, and our family couldn't afford new clothes. • Life can be difficult even at/in the best of *times*. **b** : the styles, events, or ideas that are popular or important in a culture now or at a particular period in the past • Companies must change/evolve/move with the *times* or risk losing their customers. • In this business, you have to **keep up with the times**. [=stay current; change as conditions change] • *Times have changed* since then. • Come on. **Get with the times**. [=understand and change to fit what is now happening and accepted in the culture] • Their methods are **behind the times**. [=outdated]

13 a [count] : a period or stage in a person's life • I'm at a *time* in my life when I don't care much about my appearance. • at various *times* of her life **b [singular]** : the time when a woman gives birth to a child • Her *time* is drawing near. **c [singular]** : the time when someone dies • "Why did he have to die?" "It was just his *time*."

14 a [singular] : the number of months, years, etc., that a person spends at a particular place or in a particular group or organization • I learned a great deal during my *time* at Harvard. • She used her *time* in the Senate to fight for the environment. **b [singular]** : the number of months or years that an active member of the military is required to stay in the military • She plans on going to college after she **serves her time** in the army. = She plans on going to college after she **puts in her time** in the army. • He was an ex-soldier who **did his time** in Vietnam. [=he fought in Vietnam while he was a soldier] **c [noncount] informal** : the number of days, months, or years that a person must stay in prison • She's now **doing time** for armed robbery. • (US) He could be facing **hard time** [=a long or difficult prison sentence] for his crimes.

15 [count] : the seconds, minutes, etc., it takes to do something (such as finish a race) • She ran the mile in a *time* of 5 minutes and 15 seconds. • What was my *time*? [=how long did it take me to do it?] • He finished **in record time**. [=in the least amount of time ever]

16 [noncount] : the minutes, hours, or days that a person works or is required to work for a company : the time during which a company is paying a worker • She has been putting in a lot of *time* [=she has been working a lot] at the office. • I'll ask my supervisor if I can **take time off (work)** to go to the dentist. • She **took time out** from her career to raise her children. [=she stopped working while she raised her children] • (US) Employees need to make personal calls **on their own time**. = (Brit) Employees need to make personal calls **in their own time**. [=when their employer is not paying them to work] • (US) Please do not make personal calls (when you are) **on company time**. = (Brit) Please do not make personal calls (when you are) **in company time**. [=when your employer is paying you to work] — see also DOUBLE TIME, FLEX-TIME, FULL-TIME, OVERTIME, PART-TIME, SHORT TIME, TIME AND A HALF

17 times [plural] — used to say how much bigger, smaller,

faster, etc., something is than something else • Her salary is five *times* greater than mine. = She earns five *times* as much money as I do. • The area received three *times* the amount of rain it got last year. • You would have to spend *two times* [=twice] as much at a regular department store. • Their original investment has paid for itself *many times over*. — see also TIMES

18 [noncount] *music* **a** : the rate of speed at which a piece of music is performed • We clapped *in time to* [=in a way that matched the speed of] the music. • March *in time*. — see also KEEP TIME 2 (below) **b** : the way that beats are grouped together in a piece of music • the use of 6/8 *time* in certain styles of music — often used after *in* • If a song is *in 3/4 time*, that means that there are three beats per bar/measure and that each of those beats is a quarter note. • a dance performed *in 4/4 time* with a quick tempo

against time ✧ If you are *racing/working (etc.) against time* or are in a *race against time*, you are doing something quickly because you have only a small amount of time. • We're *working against time* to finish this book. • They *raced against time* to get her to the hospital. • It was a *race against time* to find a cure for the disease.

ahead of time : before something happens : earlier than a time or event • He called the restaurant *ahead of time* to make a dinner reservation. • She read the report *ahead of time* to prepare for the meeting.

ahead of your/its time ✧ If you are *ahead of your time* or if your ideas, creations, etc., are *ahead of their time*, you are too advanced or modern to be understood or appreciated during the time when you live or work. • As a director, he was *ahead of his time*. His movies are now regarded as classics, but they were unpopular when he made them.

(all) in good time : when the appropriate moment arrives : when the time is right • I'll let him know *in good time*. • It will happen *all in good time*.

all (of) the time **1** : ALWAYS • You can't be right *all of the time*. **2** *informal* : very often or frequently • "Do you ever take the subway to work?" "Yeah, *all the time*." • My sisters and I used to fight *all of the time*. **3** *usually all the time* : since something began • We thought that he disliked her, while *all the time* [(more commonly) *all along, the whole time*] he was in love with her. • I knew the truth *all the time*. • The police knew *all the time* who was guilty.

(and) not before time (too) *chiefly Brit* — used to say that something should have happened sooner • They're finally going to change things, *and not before time, too*. [=and it's about time]

any time (now) : very soon • The train should be arriving *any time now*.

a sign of the times see ¹SIGN

a stitch in time (saves nine) see ¹STITCH

at all times : without stopping or changing at any time : ALWAYS • The system is kept running *at all times*. • Keep your hands inside the vehicle *at all times*.

at a time **1** : during one particular moment • I can only do one thing *at a time*. [=at once] • Please speak *one at a time*. [=so that only one person is speaking at any time] • We carried the boxes *two at a time* up the stairs. [=we carried two boxes each time we went up the stairs] **2** : during one period of time without stopping • She can sit and read for hours *at a time*. [=at a stretch] **3** ✧ If you *take one day at a time* or *take it/things one day at a time*, you make progress in a slow and careful way by dealing with each day as it comes. • We got through the ordeal by *taking one day at a time*. [=taking it day by day]

at the same time **1** : during the same moment • She was driving, eating, and talking on the phone *all at the same time*. • She tries to appear to be both glamorous and modest *at the same time*. • As a parent, he is *at one and the same time* strict and loving. [=he is both strict and loving] **2** — used to introduce a statement that adds to and differs from a preceding statement • The new regulations will help the environment. *At the same time* [=on the other hand], they may be a burden to businesses. • She wants more respect, but *at the same time* she does nothing to earn it. = She wants more respect, while *at the same time* doing nothing to earn it.

at times : SOMETIMES • He is an intelligent person, but he can be quite stubborn *at times*. [=from time to time] • *At times*, I wondered if we were doing the right thing.

before your time **1** — used to say that something happened before you were born or before you were involved in some activity • You wouldn't know about that. It was *be-*

fore your time. **2** ✧ If you become *old before your time*, you look and feel older than you are. • Such experiences make people *old before their time*. **3** ✧ If you *die before your time*, you die at a younger age than you should. • Mozart *died before his time*.

behind the times : not having or showing knowledge of current ideas or styles : OUTDATED • The entire country is *behind the times* when it comes to protecting the environment. • Our professor is surprisingly *behind the times*. [=old-fashioned]

be living on borrowed time see BORROW

better luck next time see ¹LUCK

bide your time see BIDE

buy time see ¹BUY

call time **1** *US, sports* : to ask for a time-out • The coach *called time*. : to give the order for a time-out • The referee *called time*. **2** *Brit* **a** : to announce that it is time for a bar or pub to close **b** : to say or decide that something has ended : to end something — usually + *on* • an athlete who has *called time on* his career

for the time being : during the present time but possibly not in the future • I think we should stay here *for the time being*. [=for now] • *For the time being*, this car suits all of our family's needs.

from time to time : SOMETIMES • Such things are bound to happen *from time to time*. [=at times] • *From time to time* [=occasionally, once in a while], it's nice to let someone else make the decisions.

give (someone) a hard time see ¹HARD

half the time *informal* : very often • *Half the time* I have no idea what my professor is talking about.

hard times see ¹HARD

have a thin time (of it) see ¹THIN

have time **1** : to be able to use an amount of time for a particular purpose • "Can you go to the store for me?" "I'm sorry, but I don't *have time*." [=I'm too busy] • Unfortunately, I *haven't got* (the) *time*. • We're on a deadline, but he acts like we *have all the time in the world!* — often followed by *to* + *verb* • I didn't *have time to read* the whole book. • Do you *have time to look* this over for me? • We haven't *had any time to talk* about it yet. — often + *for* • We don't *have time for* this nonsense! • I don't *have the time or the patience for* this. • Do we *have enough time for* another drink? • We've *got time for* a few more questions. **2** : to like or be willing to spend time dealing with (something or someone) — usually + *for* • I *have no time for* liars. • (*Brit*) We *have a lot of time for* her.

in no time : very quickly or soon • We'll be there *in no time*. • Don't worry. It'll all be over *in no time*.

in the nick of time see ¹NICK

in time **1** : before something happens : early enough • Do you think we'll get there *in time*? — often followed by *to* + *verb* • They arrived just *in time to catch* the last train out of town. — often + *for* • I'll try to make it home *in time for* dinner. • The CD will be released just *in time for* Christmas. **2** : when an amount of time has passed • *In time*, she forgave him. • Things will get better *in time*. [=eventually]

in your own (good) time : at the time that is right or appropriate for you and not sooner • He'll make a decision *in his own good time*. • Everything happens *in its own time*.

it's about time *informal* — used to say often in an annoyed way that something should have happened sooner • *It's about time* you got here. I've been waiting for over an hour! • "They're getting married." "Well, *it's about time!*"

it's high time see ¹HIGH

keep time **1** *of a watch or clock* : to show the correct time • My watch *keeps* good/perfect *time*. [=it shows the correct time; it works well] **2** *music* : to perform music at the correct speed • Among other things, the conductor helps the orchestra *keep time* (to the music).

make good time : to travel somewhere quickly • They *made good time* on their trip. • We're *making good time*. We've already traveled a hundred miles today.

make time : to cause an amount of time to be available for an activity • I'll have to *make* (the) *time* to get it done. — often + *for* • She has trouble *making time* in her busy schedule *for* exercise. • No matter how busy he was, Grandpa always *made time for* us.

mark time see ²MARK

most of the time or most times : on most occasions : USUALLY • Sometimes I go out for lunch, but *most of the time* I bring my own lunch to work. • *Most times*, this method works just fine.

ninety/ninety-nine (etc.) percent of the time : on most occasions : USUALLY • I hate to admit it, but he's right *ninety percent of the time*. [=most of the time]

not give someone the time of day ✧ If you do *not give someone the time of day*, you do not give that person any attention or help. • I asked them for directions, but they *wouldn't give me the time of day*.

of all time : that has ever lived or existed • In my opinion, he is still the greatest basketball player *of all time*. — see also ALL-TIME

once upon a time see ¹ONCE

(only) time will tell — used to say that the results of a situation will be known only after a certain amount of time has passed • "Will he be OK?" "I don't know. *Only time will tell*."

on time : at or before the correct moment : at a time that is not late • Try to be there *on time*. • I paid all of my bills *on time* [=when they were due] this month. • Please hand in your homework *on time*. • We arrived *right on time*. [=exactly at the right time]

play for time see ¹PLAY

stand the test of time see ¹TEST

take (the) time to do something : to use an amount of time in order to do something important • They never *took the time to get to know her*. • *Take (the) time to think* about it before you make a decision. • I *took some time to think* about it, and my answer is still "no."

take time ✧ People say that something *takes some/no (etc.) time* to describe how much time is needed for something to happen or be done. • You have to be patient. Things like this *take time*. [=things like this cannot be done quickly] • It may *take some time* for the medication to wear off. • The meeting won't *take too much time*. [=the meeting will be short] • This project will *take a lot of time*. • It'll *take no time at all*. = It will *take very little time*.

take your time : to do something slowly or without hurrying • I need to *take my time* and think about it for a while. • There's no need to hurry. *Take your time*. [=take all the time you need] • Please *take your time* filling out the form.

tell time (US) or Brit tell the time : to be able to know what time it is by looking at a clock • My son is just learning to *tell time*.

the end of time see ¹END

the whole time ¹ : since something began : during the entire period of time • We thought that he disliked her, while *the whole time* [=all along, all the time] he was in love with her. • I knew the truth *the whole time*. • The police knew *the whole time* who was guilty. ² Brit : ALWAYS • You can't be right *the whole time*. [=all (of) the time] ³ Brit, informal : very often • My sisters and I used to fight *the whole time*. [=all (of) the time]

time after time or time and again or time and time again : on many occasions : very often or frequently • *Time after time*, we see this happen with our patients. • I've told you *time and again* [=repeatedly] not to do that.

time flies — used to say that time passes quickly • As they say, "*Time flies* when you're having fun." • Your son is in high school already? My, how *time flies*!

time heals all wounds or chiefly Brit time is a/the great healer — used to say that feelings of sadness, disappointment, etc., gradually go away as time passes • I thought I would never be able to love again, but, as they say, *time heals all wounds*.

time is money see MONEY

time is (not) on your side ✧ If *time is on your side*, you have a good chance of success because you can wait until a situation improves. If *time is not on your side*, your chance of success is less because you have to do something very soon. • House prices are all dropping, and in the case of home buyers, *time is on their side*. [=the houses that people want to buy will become cheaper as more time passes] • If we wait too long to buy the tickets, the concert may be sold out: *time is not on our side*. [=all the tickets may be sold if we wait too long to buy them]

time marches on : time continues to pass • I was very disappointed when it happened. But *time marches on*, and I've learned to accept it now.

time was (when) old-fashioned — used to say that something was true in the past and usually to express annoyance that it is no longer true • *Time was*, you could buy a candy bar for a nickel. • *Time was when* people respected their elders. [=people used to respect their elders in the past]

until such time as formal : until the time when : UNTIL • He will be suspended from work *until such time as* this matter has been resolved.

your (own) sweet time chiefly US, informal ✧ If you do something *in your (own) sweet time* or you *take your (own) sweet time* about doing something, you do it slowly even though other people want you to do it more quickly. • She's *taking her own sweet time* about finishing the work.

²**time verb times; timed; tim-ing [+ obj]**

¹ : to choose the hour, day, month, etc., when (something) will happen : to schedule (something, such as an event) to happen at a particular time • They *timed* their vacation to coincide with the jazz festival. — often used as (be) *timed* • The ceremony *was timed* to coincide with the President's visit. • It was a poorly *timed* visit. [=the visit happened at an unfortunate or inconvenient time] — see also ILL-TIMED, WELL-TIMED

² **sports** : to cause (something, such as a throw or pass) to happen at a certain moment • He *timed* it so that he made the shot just before the clock ran out. • She *timed* the shot perfectly.

³ : to measure the amount of time needed by someone to do something (such as to finish a race) • The runners are *timed* with special watches. • He *timed* the students as they completed their tests. • *timing* a horse race

time and a half noun [noncount] : a rate of pay that is equal to what a worker usually earns for an hour plus half of that amount • If they make you work during holidays, they pay you *time and a half*. • We get paid 20 dollars an hour for 40 hours and *time and a half* for overtime.

time bomb noun, pl ~ bombs [count]

¹ : a bomb that is set to explode at a particular moment

² : a person or situation that will probably become dangerous or harmful in the future • He's a *time bomb* getting ready to explode. • If we don't do something about the pollution problem, we'll be sitting on a *ticking time bomb*.

time capsule noun, pl ~ -sules [count] : a container that is filled with things (such as newspapers or clothing) from the present time and that is meant to be opened by people at some time in the future

time card noun, pl ~ cards [count] : a piece of paper or cardboard that is put into a special clock in order to record the times when an employee starts and stops working • Don't forget to punch your *time card* on your way out.

time clock noun, pl ~ clocks [count] : a special clock that is used to record the times when an employee starts and stops working

time-con-sum-ing /'taɪmkən'su:mɪŋ, Brit 'taɪmkən'sju:mɪŋ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : using or needing a large amount of time • *time-consuming* chores • a very expensive and *time-consuming* process • Can we try to make this less *time-consuming*?

time frame noun, pl ~ frames [count] : a period of time that is used or planned for a particular action or project • They were not able to finish the project within the established *time frame*.

time-hon-ored (US) or Brit time-hon-oured /'taɪm,ɑ:nəd/ *adj*, always used before a noun : existing and respected for a long time • *time-honored* traditions/institutions

time-keep-er /'taɪm,ki:pə/ *noun, pl -ers [count]*

¹ : a person who controls or records official times during a contest (such as a race or game) • The *timekeeper* forgot to stop the clock during the team's last time-out.

² Brit — used in the phrases *good timekeeper* and *bad/poor timekeeper* to say that someone is or is not good about arriving at the correct or expected time • We expect our employees to be *good timekeepers*.

— **time-keep-ing** /'taɪm,ki:pɪŋ/ *noun [noncount]*

time lag noun [singular] : a period of time between two related actions (such as a cause and its effect) • There's a *time lag* between when you see a stop sign and when your foot steps on the brake.

time-lapse /'taɪm,læps/ *adj*, always used before a noun — used to describe a way of filming something in which many photographs are taken over a long period of time and are shown quickly in a series so that a slow action (such as the opening of a flower bud) appears to happen quickly • *time-lapse* photography

time-less /'taɪmləs/ *adj*

¹ : staying beautiful or fashionable as time passes • The

dresses that she designs are elegant and *timeless*. • the *timeless* beauty of the sea

2 : lasting forever • *timeless* [=ageless] truths/wisdom

– *time-less-ly* *adv* – *time-less-ness* *noun* [noncount]

time limit *noun*, *pl* ~ *-its* [count] : an amount of time in which something must be done or completed • My boss gave me a three-hour *time limit* to finish the job.

time-line /'taɪm,lain/ *noun*, *pl* *-lines* [count]

1 : a plan which shows the order of events that will happen, things that will be done, etc. • She drew up a *timeline* [=time-table] for the project.

2 : a line that includes marks showing when particular events happened in the past • The *timeline* shows the important events in American history.

time-ly /'taɪmli/ *adj* **time-li-er**; **-est** [or more ~; most ~] : happening at the correct or most useful time : not happening too late • Her very *timely* book examines the effects of global warming on the world's climates. • a *timely* decision/warning • She always responds to my requests in a *timely* fashion/manner. — opposite *untimely*

– *time-li-ness* *noun* [noncount] • the *timeliness* of the warning

time machine *noun*, *pl* ~ *-chines* [count] *in stories* : a machine that allows people to travel to a time in the past or future

time-out /'taɪm'au/ *noun*, *pl* *-outs*

1 : a short period of time during a sports event when the game stops and the players rest or talk to their coach [count] The coach asked for a *time-out* to talk to her players. • The coach called a *time-out*. [noncount] The quarterback called *time-out* [=asked for a time-out] with 20 seconds remaining.

2 : a short period of time when you stop doing something so that you can rest or do something else [count] We've been working all morning. Let's take a *time-out* and get some coffee. [noncount] Let's take *time-out* for a few minutes.

3 *US* : a short period of time when a child must sit quietly as punishment for behaving badly [count] The book talks about the proper way to use *time-outs*. • If you do that again, you're getting a *time-out*! = If you do that again, I'm giving you a *time-out*! [noncount] There's no talking during *time-out*.

time-piece /'taɪm,pɪs/ *noun*, *pl* *-piec-es* [count] *formal* : a clock or watch • an expensive German *timepiece*

tim-er /'taɪmər/ *noun*, *pl* *-ers* [count]

1 : a special watch that is used to measure the amount of time that is taken to finish a race, a test, etc. : *stopwatch*; also : a person who uses such a watch to time someone or something • He was the official *timer* for the race.

2 **a** : a device that makes a sound when a certain amount of time has passed • She set the *timer* on the oven for one hour. • The *timer* is set to go off in 15 minutes. **b** : a device that can be set to turn something (such as a light) on or off at a certain time — often used after *on* • The sprinkler is *on* a *timer*. [= (Brit) *time switch*] • We put the house lights *on* *timers* before going on vacation.

– see also *old-timer*, *two-timer*

time-re-lease /'taɪmri'li:s/ *adj* : releasing a drug slowly over a period of time instead of all at once • *time-release* capsules/tablets

times /'taɪmz/ *prep* : multiplied by • Two *times* two is/equals four. — see also ¹*time* 17

time-sav-ing /'taɪm,servɪŋ/ *adj* : making it possible to do something quickly : causing something to happen or end faster • microwaves, washing machines, and other *time-saving* devices of the 20th century • The company implemented new *time-saving* measures to increase productivity.

– *time-sav-er* /'taɪm,servə/ *noun*, *pl* *-ers* [count] • This new shortcut is a real *time-saver*.

time-scale /'taɪm,skeɪl/ *noun*, *pl* *-scales* [count]

1 : a period of time whose size can be compared to other periods of time • When considered on the 4.6 billion year *time-scale* of the Earth, our lives can seem insignificant.

2 *chiefly Brit* : *time frame* • What is the *timescale* for completion of the work?

time-share /'taɪm,ʃeə/ *noun*, *pl* *-shares* [count] : a vacation home that is owned or rented by several people who use it at different times of the year • They own a *time-share* in Florida.

– *time-shar-ing* /'taɪm,ʃerɪŋ/ *noun* [noncount]

time sheet *noun*, *pl* ~ *sheets* [count] : a piece of paper that you use to record the hours that you worked each day

time signature *noun*, *pl* ~ *-tures* [count] : a number that is written at the beginning of a piece of music and that shows the number and length of the beats in each measure

times sign *noun*, *pl* ~ *signs* [count] : the symbol × that is used to show that two numbers are to be multiplied

times table *noun*, *pl* ~ *tables* [count] : MULTIPLICATION TABLE

time switch *noun*, *pl* ~ *switches* [count] *Brit* : *timer* 2b

time-ta-ble /'taɪm,təbəl/ *noun*, *pl* *-ta-bles* [count]

1 : a plan of things that need to be done and the times they will be done — often + *for* • In planning for the project, you should include a list of goals and a *timetable* [=schedule] for achieving those goals. • The agency set a strict/rigid/tight *timetable* for completing the work.

2 *chiefly Brit* : a list of the times when something (such as a bus, train, or airplane) is expected to leave or arrive • a bus *timetable* [= (US) *schedule*]

3 *Brit* : a written or printed list of activities and the times when they will be done • There have been a few changes to the class *timetable*. [= (US) *schedule*]

– *time-table* *verb* *-tables*; *-tabled*; *-tabling* [+ *obj*] *chiefly Brit* • The meeting is *timetabled* [=scheduled] for 10 a.m. = The meeting is *timetabled* to begin at 10 a.m.

time-test-ed /'taɪm,tɛstəd/ *adj*, *chiefly US* : done or used for a long time and proved to be effective • These *time-tested* methods have worked for farmers for hundreds of years.

time trial *noun*, *pl* ~ *trials* [count] : a race in which competitors are timed as they race over a course and the one who completes the course in the least amount of time is the winner • He posted the second best lap in the *time trials*.

time warp *noun*, *pl* ~ *warps* [count] : a feeling, state, or place in which time seems to stop, go backward, etc. • Walking into the castle was like entering a *time warp*. • She dresses like someone caught/stuck/trapped in a 1950s *time warp*. [=she dresses in styles from the 1950s]

time-worn /'taɪm,wɔ:n/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : in bad condition because of age • a *timeworn* sweater with holes in the sleeves • The houses on the street are all *timeworn* and badly in need of repair.

2 : no longer interesting or effective because of being old or used too often • a *timeworn* joke/excuse • He gave us the same *timeworn* speech about the need to work hard.

time zone *noun*, *pl* ~ *zones* [count] : any one of the world's 24 divisions that has its own time ♦ Each time zone is one hour earlier than the time zone directly to the east. • We flew west and landed in a different *time zone*.

tim-id /'tɪməd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : feeling or showing a lack of courage or confidence • She's very *timid* and shy when meeting strangers. • He gave her a *timid* smile.

– *ti-mid-i-ty* /tə'mɪdəti/ *noun* [noncount] – *tim-id-ly* /'tɪmədli/ *adv* • She *timidly* entered the room.

tim-ing /'taɪmɪŋ/ *noun* [noncount]

1 : the time when something happens or is done especially when it is thought of as having a good or bad effect on the result • The *timing* of the sale could not have been better.

2 : the ability to choose the best moment for some action, movement, etc. • Her *timing* was a little off and she missed the shot. • an athlete with impeccable *timing*

tim-o-rous /'tɪmərəs/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *formal* : easily frightened : *fearful* • a shy and *timorous* teenager • He spoke with a *timorous* voice.

– *tim-o-rous-ly* *adv* • She *timorously* approached the teacher. – *tim-o-rous-ness* *noun* [noncount]

tim-pa-ni /'tɪmpəni/ *noun* [plural] *music* : a set of two or three large drums (called *kettledrums*) that are played by one performer in an orchestra — see picture at *percussion*

– *tim-pa-nist* /'tɪmpənɪst/ *noun*, *pl* *-nists* [count]

tin /'tɪn/ *noun*, *pl* *tins*

1 [noncount] : a soft, shiny, bluish-white metal that has many different uses

2 [count] **a** : a container or plate made of metal • a pie *tin*

b : a decorative metal box with a cover or lid • a *tin* of biscuits/tobacco **c** *chiefly Brit* : ²*CAN* 1a • a *tin* of tomatoes • sardine *tins* **d** *Brit* : ¹*PAN* 1a • a roasting *tin*

– *tin* *adj* • a *tin* kettle/roof

tinc-ture /'tɪŋktʃər/ *noun*, *pl* *-tures* [count] *technical* : a medicine that is made of a drug mixed with alcohol • a *tincture* of iodine • medicinal *tinctures*

tin-der /'tɪndər/ *noun* [noncount] : dry material (such as wood or grass) that burns easily and can be used to start a fire : *kindling*

tin·der·box /'tɪndə,bɔːks/ *noun*, *pl* **-box·es** [count]

1 : a box that holds material that can be used to start a fire easily : a container for tinder

2 a : a structure that would burn very quickly if it caught on fire • That old house is really a *tinderbox*. **b** : a place or situation that could suddenly become very violent • The campus was a *tinderbox* [=powder keg] on the verge of a riot.

tine /'taɪn/ *noun*, *pl* **tines** [count] : one of the thin, pointed parts on a fork : PRONG • One of the fork's *tines* was bent.

tin ear *noun*, *pl* ~ **ears** [count] chiefly US : a lack of ability to hear something (such as music or speech) in an accurate and sensitive way • My wife is a talented musician, but I have a *tin ear*. • a writer with a *tin ear* for dialogue [=who writes dialogue that does not sound real]

tin·foil /'tɪn,fɔɪl/ *noun* [noncount] : a thin sheet of shiny metal that is used especially for cooking or storing food • Wrap the leftover food in *tin foil*. • a piece of *tin foil*

¹tinge /'tɪŋdʒ/ *noun*, *pl* **ting·es** [count] : a slight color, flavor, or quality • showing a *tinge* of color • dark hair with reddish *tinges* • a *tinge* [=hint] of mystery/regret

²tinge *verb* **tinges; tinged; tinge·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to give a small amount of color to (something) • The ink *tinged* his fingers blue. — often used as (*be*) *tinged* • The sky *was tinged* with red. • trees *tinged* in yellow and orange

2 : to give a small amount of some quality to (something) — usually used as (*be*) *tinged with* • Her days *were tinged with* sadness. • a comment *tinged with* sarcasm [=a somewhat sarcastic comment]

tin·gle /'tɪŋɡəl/ *verb* **tin·gles; tin·gled; tin·gling** [*no obj*]

1 : to have a feeling like the feeling of many small sharp points pressing into your skin • My arm/leg was numb and *tingling*.

2 : to feel an emotion (such as excitement) very strongly • Everyone was *tingling with excitement*. [=everyone was very excited] — see also SPINE-TINGLING

— **tingle** *noun*, *pl* **tingles** [count] • The music sent *tingles* up and down my spine. — **tingling** *noun* [noncount] • The patient felt numbness, *tingling*, and pain in her left leg. — **ting·gly** /'tɪŋɡəli/ *adj* **tin·gli·er; -est** • a *tingly* sensation

tin·horn /'tɪn,hɔːn/ *noun*, *pl* **-horns** [count] US, informal + *disapproving* : a person who talks and acts like someone who is strong and powerful but who is really weak, unimportant, etc. — usually used before another noun • a *tin horn* dictator/tyrant

¹tin·ker /'tɪŋkə/ *verb* **-kers; -kered; -ker·ing** [*no obj*] : to try to repair or improve something (such as a machine) by making small changes or adjustments to it • He was *tinkering* in the garage. — often + *with* • The car wouldn't start, but my brother *tinkered with* the engine a little and got it going again. • They are still *tinkering* (around) *with* the details of the plan.

— **tin·ker·er** /'tɪŋkərə/ *noun*, *pl* **-ers** [count]

²tinker *noun*, *pl* **-kers** [count] : a person who in the past traveled to different places and made money by selling or repairing small items (such as pots and pans)

tink·er's damn also **tink·er's dam** /'tɪŋkəz'dæm/ *noun* [singular] US, informal : the smallest possible amount — used like *damn* in negative statements • He obviously doesn't *give a tinker's damn* [=doesn't care at all] about what happens. • If you ask me, his opinions aren't *worth a tinker's damn*. [=aren't worth anything]

Tin·ker·toy /'tɪŋkə,tɔɪ/ *trademark* — used for a construction toy with parts that fit together

¹tin·kle /'tɪŋkəl/ *verb* **tin·kles; tin·kled; tin·kling**

1 : to make sounds like the sounds of a small bell [*no obj*] The ice *tinkled* in the glass. • A piano was *tinkling* in the background. [+ *obj*] He *tinkled* a small bell.

2 [*no obj*] informal : to pass urine from the body : URINATE — used especially by small children • The little boy said he had to *tinkle*.

²tinkle *noun*, *pl* **tinkles**

1 [count] : the sound produced by a small bell or a similar sound • the *tinkle* of wineglasses

2 [singular] Brit, informal : a telephone call • Give me a *tinkle* [=call me] when you have the time.

3 [singular] informal : the act of passing urine from the body — used especially by small children • The little boy said he had to *have/take a tinkle*. [=he had to urinate/pee]

— **tin·kly** /'tɪŋkli/ *adj* • a *tinkly* sound

tinned /'tɪnd/ *adj*, Brit : preserved in a metal or glass container : CANNED • *tinned* ham/peaches/tuna

tin·ni·tus /'tɪnətəs, tən'naɪtəs/ *noun* [noncount] medical : a

condition that causes you to hear ringing or roaring sounds that only you can hear

tin·ny /'tɪni/ *adj* **tin·ni·er; -est** : having a high and unpleasant sound • a *tinny* voice • The music sounded *tinny*.

tin opener *noun*, *pl* ~ **-ers** [count] Brit : CAN OPENER

Tin Pan Alley *noun* [noncount] : an area in a city where people who write and produce popular music live and work

tin·pot /'tɪn'pɔːt/ *adj*, always used before a noun, informal + *disapproving* : of little worth or importance : TWO-BIT • a *tin-pot* dictator/tyrant

tin·sel /'tɪnsəl/ *noun* [noncount]

1 : thin strips of shiny metal or paper that are used as decoration • I like to decorate the Christmas tree with *tinsel*.

2 : something that seems attractive or appealing but is of little worth • He's not attracted to the *tinsel* and glitter of Hollywood.

Tin·sel·town /'tɪnsəl,təʊn/ *noun*, informal — used as a name for Hollywood, California • young actors seduced by *Tinseltown* — often used before another noun • *Tinseltown* films/stars

¹tint /'tɪnt/ *noun*, *pl* **tints**

1 [count] : a small amount of color • a photo with a sepia *tint* • green with a yellowish *tint*

2 a [count, noncount] : dye used to change the color of hair

b [singular] : an act of changing the color of hair by using dye • She got a red *tint* at the salon.

²tint *verb* **tints; tint·ed; tint·ing** [+ *obj*] : to give a small amount of color to (something) • They *tinted* the water with blue dye. • She wanted to have her hair *tinted*. [=dyed] — **tinted** *adj* • *tinted* glasses/lenses/windows

tin·tin·nab·u·la·tion /,tɪntə,næbjə'leɪʃən/ *noun*, *pl* **-tions** [count] literary : the sound of ringing bells

tin·type /'tɪn,təɪp/ *noun*, *pl* **-types** [count] US : an old type of photograph that was made on a piece of metal

ti·ny /'taɪni/ *adj* **ti·ni·er; -est** : very small • a *tiny* baby bird • The computer chips were *tiny*. • He's from a *tiny* town that you've probably never heard of. • the *tiniest* of openings • There's just one *tiny* little problem. • Aren't you even a *tiny* bit scared?

¹tip /'tɪp/ *verb* **tips; tipped; tip·ping**

T : to turn or move something so that it is not straight or level : to cause something to lean or slant : TILT [+ *obj*] She *tipped* her head to the left. • He *tipped* his glass and spilled some water. • He *tipped* his chair back and fell over. [*no obj*] The glass *tipped* slightly and some of the water spilled out.

2 [+ *obj*] chiefly Brit : to cause (something) to move or fall from a place, container, etc. • She *tipped* [=poured] the batter into a large bowl.

tip over [phrasal verb] **tip over or tip (something) over or tip over (something)** : to fall over or to cause (something) to fall over • The glass nearly *tipped over*. • He accidentally *tipped* the lamp *over* and broke it.

tip the scales **1 or tip the balance** : to change a situation so that one person, group, etc., is more able or likely to succeed : to give an advantage to someone or something • Both candidates are qualified, but her experience *tips the scales* in her favor. **2 tip the scales at** : to have (a specified weight) • He *tips the scales at* 285 pounds. [=he weighs 285 pounds]

tip up [phrasal verb] **tip (something) up or tip up (something)** : to move or cause (something) to move so that one end is lifted up • She *tipped up* the lid of the box and looked inside.

tip your cap/hat **1** : to touch your hat or cap or to lift it off your head as a way of greeting or saying goodbye to someone • He *tipped his hat* to her as she walked past. **2** — used informally to say that you admire or respect someone • I really have to *tip my hat* to those people for all their hard work.

tip your hand : to show what you are planning to do • The company wants to avoid *tippping its hand* about its decision until next month.

— compare ⁴TIP, ⁶TIP, ⁸TIP

²tip *noun*, *pl* **tips**

1 [singular] : the act of touching your hat or cap or lifting it off your head as a way of greeting or saying goodbye to someone : the act of tipping your hat • With a *tip* of his hat, he said goodbye and headed out the door.

2 [count] Brit **a** : a place where rubbish is left : DUMP **b** informal : a very messy place : DUMP • This place is a real *tip*!

— compare ³TIP, ⁵TIP, ⁷TIP, ⁹TIP

- ³**tip** *noun, pl tips* [count] : the end of something that is usually long and thin • a pencil *tip* • the *tips* of her fingers • the *tip* of a ski • The village is located at the southern *tip* of the island.
on the tip of your tongue 1 ♦ If a word, name, etc., is *on the tip of your tongue*, you know it but cannot remember it.
 • His name is (right) *on the tip of my tongue*. 2 ♦ If a statement is *on the tip of your tongue*, you nearly say it but decide not to say it. • A sarcastic reply was *on the tip of her tongue*.
the tip of the iceberg see ICEBERG
 — compare ²TIP, ⁵TIP, ⁷TIP, ⁹TIP
- ⁴**tip** *verb tips; tipped; tip-ping* [+ *obj*] *sports* : to hit or push (a moving ball or hockey puck) lightly so that it changes direction • The hockey player *tipped* the puck into the net.
 — see also TIP-IN
tip off [phrasal verb] *of a basketball game* : ²START • The game is scheduled to *tip off* at 7:00 o'clock tonight. — see also ²TIP-OFF
 — compare ¹TIP, ⁶TIP, ⁸TIP
- ⁵**tip** *noun, pl tips* [count] *sports* : an act of lightly pushing or hitting a moving ball or hockey puck to make it change direction • a foul *tip* — compare ²TIP, ³TIP, ⁷TIP, ⁹TIP
- ⁶**tip** *verb tips; tipped; tipping* [+ *obj*]
 1 : to give useful or secret information to (someone) • Someone *tipped* [=told] the police about their plans. — see also TIP OFF (below)
 2 *Brit* : to say that someone or something is likely to succeed, win, etc. • The new book is being *tipped* [=touted] as a probable best seller.
tip off [phrasal verb] *tip (someone) off or tip off (someone)* : to give useful or secret information to (someone) • Someone *tipped off* the police about the robbery. • Someone *tipped them off* that there would be a robbery. — see also ¹TIP-OFF
tip (someone) the wink *Brit, informal* : to give secret information to (someone) • How could he have known about the plan? Someone must have *tipped him the wink*.
 — compare ¹TIP, ⁴TIP, ⁸TIP
- ⁷**tip** *noun, pl tips* [count]
 1 : a piece of advice or useful information • She got a *tip* on how to prepare for the test. • *tips* for saving money • The book provides some good household cleaning *tips*.
 2 : a piece of secret information given by a person who has special knowledge about something • an insider's *tip* on when to sell the stock • The police got a *tip* about the suspect from an informer. • I got a *hot tip* about a great new restaurant.
 — compare ²TIP, ³TIP, ⁵TIP, ⁹TIP
- ⁸**tip** *verb tips; tipped; tipping* : to give an extra amount of money to someone who performs a service for you : to give a tip to (someone) [+ *obj*] Did you remember to *tip* the waiter/waitress? • How much should I *tip* for a haircut? [no *obj*] She always *tips* generously. — compare ¹TIP, ⁴TIP, ⁶TIP
 — **tip-per** /'tɪpə/ *noun, pl -pers* [count] • She is a generous *tipper*.
- ⁹**tip** *noun, pl tips* [count] : an extra amount of money that you give to someone (such as a waitress or waiter) who performs a service for you • I left/gave the waitress a good/generous *tip*. • The doorman earned a lot in *tips* over the holiday season. — compare ²TIP, ³TIP, ⁵TIP, ⁷TIP
- tipi** *variant spelling of TEPEE*
- tip-in** /'tɪp,ɪn/ *noun, pl -ins* [count] *US, sports* : a goal that is scored by lightly pushing or touching a moving ball or hockey puck so that it goes into the basket or net from a short distance away • She scored the winning basket/goal on a *tip-in*.
- ¹**tip-off** /'tɪp,ɔ:f/ *noun, pl -offs* [count]
 1 : a warning that something (such as a crime) is going to happen • The police received a *tip-off* about the robbery from an informer. — see also *tip off* at ⁶TIP
 2 : a clear sign or indication of something • The worried expression on his face was a *tip-off* that something had gone wrong.
 — compare ²TIP-OFF
- ²**tip-off** *noun, pl -offs* [count] *basketball* : the start of a game when the ball is thrown in the air and a player from each team jumps up and tries to get the ball • We arrived at the arena just a few minutes before *tip-off*. — compare ¹TIP-OFF; see also *tip off* at ⁴TIP
- tipped** /'tɪpt/ *adj* : having a specified color or material on the end or tip • red flowers *tipped* with yellow — often used in combination • silver-*tipped* hair • a diamond-*tipped* drill bit
- ¹**tip-ple** /'tɪpəl/ *verb tip-ples; tip-pled; tip-pling* [no *obj*] *in-*

formal : to drink alcohol • He gave up *tippling*.

— **tip-pler** /'tɪpələ/ *noun, pl tip-plers* [count] • a heavy *tip-pler* [=a person who drinks a lot of alcohol]

²**tipple** *noun, pl tipples* [count] *informal* : an alcoholic drink • His preferred/favorite *tipple* is whiskey.

tip-ster /'tɪpstə/ *noun, pl -sters* [count] : a person who gives useful information to someone • An anonymous *tipster* reported the crime.

tip-sy /'tɪpsi/ *adj tip-si-er; -est* [or more ~; most ~] *informal* : unsteady or foolish from drinking : slightly drunk • I got a little *tipsy* at the party last night.

¹**tip-toe** /'tɪp,tou/ *noun*

on tiptoe or on (your) tiptoes : with your toes touching the ground and your heels raised up • She had to stand *on tiptoe* to reach the shelf. • He stood *on his tiptoes* trying to see over the crowd. • He walked *on tiptoe* to avoid waking the children.

²**tiptoe** *verb -toes; -toed; -toe-ing* [no *obj*] : to walk with your heels raised up and only your toes touching the ground • She *tiptoed* through the puddle. • He *tiptoed* quietly around the house to avoid waking the children.

tiptoe around [phrasal verb] *tiptoe around (something)* : to avoid talking about (something) : to talk about (something) only in an indirect way • They *tiptoed around* the subject of her poor health.

³**tiptoe** *adv* : with your toes touching the ground and your heels raised up • She had to stand *tiptoe* to reach the shelf.

¹**tip-top** /'tɪp'tɑ:p/ *noun, pl -tops* [count] *informal* : the highest point of something • the very *tip-top* of the mountain

²**tip-top** *adj, informal* : very good : excellent or great • The car is in *tip-top* shape/condition.

ti-rade /'taɪ,raɪd/ *noun, pl -rades* [count] : a long and angry speech • He went into a *tirade* about the failures of the government. • The coach directed a *tirade* at the team after the loss.

¹**tire** /'taɪə/ *verb tires; tired; tir-ing*

T [no *obj*] : to lose energy and begin to feel that you need to rest : to become tired • I *tired* long before the race was over. • The pitcher seems to be *tiring*.

2 [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone) to lose energy : to make (someone) tired • The long hike *tired* the younger children. — often + *out* • Shoveling snow *tires me out*.

tire of [phrasal verb] *tire of (something)* : to become bored by (something) : to stop being interested in (something) • He soon *tired of* doing the same work every day. • They eventually *tired of* life on the road. • She never *tires of* listening to music.

²**tire** (US) or *Brit tyre* /'taɪə/ *noun, pl tires* [count] : a rubber ring that usually contains air and that fits around the wheel of a car, bicycle, etc. • bicycle/automobile *tires* • a flat *tire* — see pictures at BICYCLE, CAR; see also SNOW TIRE, SPARE TIRE

tired *adj* [more ~; most ~]

T : feeling a need to rest or sleep : WEARY • I was really *tired* after the long trip. • She's too *tired* to go out tonight. • *tired* muscles • The children were *tired* after the hike. — see also DOG-TIRED

2 : bored or annoyed by something because you have heard it, seen it, done it, etc., for a long time — + *of* • He's *tired of* working for other people. • Are you *tired of* your job? • I got *tired of* listening to her. • She never gets *tired of* their music. • I'm *sick and tired of* [=very tired of] your complaining.

3 *disapproving* : used over and over again • We had to listen to the same old *tired* excuses again. • a *tired* joke

4 : worn down by long use : RUN-DOWN • a neighborhood of *tired* houses • a *tired* old town

— **tired-ly** *adv* • She *tiredly* leaned her head back. — **tired-ness** *noun* [noncount]

tire-less /'taɪələs/ *adj* : working very hard with a lot of energy for a long time : never seeming to get tired • He's a *tireless* worker. • She has been a *tireless* advocate for reform.

— **tire-less-ly** *adv* • She has worked *tirelessly* to help the homeless.

tire-some /'taɪəsəm/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : causing you to feel bored, annoyed, or impatient • a *tiresome* [=boring] lecture • All those stories about his childhood can become *tire-some* after a while.

— **tire-some-ly** *adv*

tiring *adj* [more ~; most ~] : causing you to feel tired • The work was very *tiring*.

'tis /'tɪz, tɛz/ *old-fashioned + literary* — used as a contraction of "it is" • *'Tis* the season to be jolly.

tis·sue /'tɪfʊ/ *noun*, *pl* -sues

1 [count]: a piece of soft and very thin paper that is used especially for cleaning • a box of *tissues* • She wiped her nose with a *tissue*. • a facial *tissue*

2: the material that forms the parts in a plant or animal [noncount] a sample of brain/lung/muscle *tissue* • a *tissue* sample [plural] The drug can damage the body's *tissues*.

3 [noncount]: TISSUE PAPER • a box wrapped in *tissue*

a *tissue of lies* chiefly Brit: a story or report that is completely false: a story that is full of lies • The article was nothing but a *tissue of lies*.

tissue paper *noun* [noncount]: thin paper used especially for covering or wrapping something

¹**tit** /'tɪt/ *noun*, *pl* **tits** [count] *informal* + *often offensive*: a woman's breast — usually plural — compare ²TIT

²**tit** *noun*, *pl* **tits** [count]: a small European bird — compare ¹TIT

ti·tan /'taɪtən/ *noun*, *pl* -tans [count]

1 *Titan*: one of a family of giants in Greek mythology

2: an extremely large and powerful person, company, etc. • media *titans* • a *titan* of industry • multinational *titans*

ti·tan·ic /taɪ'tænɪk/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]: very great in size, force, or power: GIGANTIC • They put up a *titanic* struggle. • The batter hit a *titanic* home run. • a *titanic* explosion

ti·ta·ni·um /taɪ'teɪniəm/ *noun* [noncount]: a very strong and light silvery metal

titbit Brit spelling of TIDBIT

tit·fer /'tɪtfə/ *noun*, *pl* -fers [count] Brit, *informal*: HAT

tit for tat /,tɪtfə'tæt/ *noun* [noncount]: a situation in which you do something to harm someone who has done something harmful to you • a *tit for tat* between two rival politicians

— *tit-for-tat adj* • *tit-for-tat* bombings

tithe /'taɪð/ *noun*, *pl* **tithes** [count]: an amount of money that a person gives to a church which is usually equal to 1/10 of that person's income

tit·il·late /'tɪtə,leɪt/ *verb* -lates; -lat-ed; -lat-ing: to interest or excite (someone) in an enjoyable and often sexual way [+ *obj*] a film made to *titillate* the audience [no *obj*] writing that *titillates* and provokes

— *titillating adj* [more ~; most ~] • *titillating* gossip • an intentionally *titillating* movie — **tit·il·la·tion** /,tɪtə'leɪʃən/ *noun* [noncount] • sexual *titillation*

¹**ti·tle** /'taɪtl/ *noun*, *pl* **ti·tles**

1 [count]: the name given to something (such as a book, song, or movie) to identify or describe it • What was the *title* of that book you were reading last week? • The *title* of the first chapter is "Getting Started." — see also SUBTITLE

2 [count]: a published book • The company published 25 new *titles* last year. • This is one of our best-selling *titles*.

3 [count]: a word or name that describes a person's job in a company or organization • Her *title* is Vice President of Marketing. • He has an impressive job *title*.

4 [count]: a word (such as *Sir* or *Doctor*) or an abbreviation (such as *Mr.* or *Dr.*) that is used with someone's name to show that person's rank, profession, or marital status

5 [count]: the status or position of being the champion in a sport or other competition • He won the batting *title* [=championship] last year. • He currently holds the heavyweight *title*. • The school has won six basketball *titles*.

6 *law* **a** [noncount]: a legal right to the ownership of property • The court ruled that he had *title* to the land. **b** [count]: a document which shows that someone owns property • Did he find the *title* to his car?

rejoice in the title of see REJOICE

²**title** *verb* **titles**; **ti·tled**; **ti·tling** [+ *obj*]: to give a name or title to (something): to call (a book, song, movie, etc.) by a title • She *titled* the book *The Story of My Life*. • a movie *titled* *Gone With the Wind*

³**title** *adj*, *always used before a noun*

1: having the same name as a movie, play, etc. • He played the *title* role in *Hamlet*. [=he played the role of Hamlet in the play *Hamlet*] • the *title* song/track on the CD

2: of, relating to, or involving a championship • The *title* game/match [=the game/match that decides who wins the championship] will be played tonight.

titled *adj*: having a title (such as "Lord" or "Lady"): belonging to the highest social class • a *titled* British family • a member of the *titled* ranks

ti·tle·hold·er /'taɪtl,həʊldə/ *noun*, *pl* -ers [count]

1: a person who has won a championship title in a sport: CHAMPION • the heavyweight boxing *titleholder*

2 *law*: a person, company, etc., that owns property

title page *noun*, *pl* ~ **pages** [count]: a page in the front of a book that includes the book's title

ti·tlist /'taɪtlɪst/ *noun*, *pl* -tlists [count] US: a person who holds a title as champion: CHAMPION • the heavyweight *ti-tlist*

tit·mouse /'tɪt,maʊs/ *noun*, *pl* **tit·mice** /'tɪt,maɪs/ [count]: a small American bird

tit·ter /'tɪtə/ *verb* -ters; -tered; -ter-ing [no *obj*]: to laugh in a quiet and nervous way • Some people in the audience *tit-tered* nervously during an awkward pause in the speech.

— *titter noun*, *pl* -ters [count] • There were a few *titters* in the classroom.

tit·tle—tat·tle /'tɪtl,tætəl/ *noun* [noncount] chiefly Brit, *informal*: talk about things that are not important or interesting • gossipy *tittle-tattle* about celebrities

tit·ty /'tɪti/ *noun*, *pl* -ties [count] *informal* + *offensive*: a woman's breast — usually plural

tit·u·lar /'tɪfələ/ *adj*

1: having an important or impressive title but not having the power or duties that usually go with it • Although retired, he remains the *titular* chairman of the company. • the country's *titular* head/ruler/monarch

2: having the name of the character that is featured in the title of a movie, play, etc. • He played the *titular* [=title] role in *Hamlet*. [=he played the role of Hamlet in the play *Hamlet*]

tix /'tɪks/ *noun* [plural] US, *informal*: tickets • concert *tix* for sale

tiz·zy /'tɪzi/ *noun* [singular] *informal*: a state in which you feel very worried, upset, and confused • She's always *getting in/into a tizzy* over minor things. — called also (Brit) *tizz* /'tɪz/

TKO /,ti:,keɪ'ou/ *noun*, *pl* **TKOs** [count]: TECHNICAL KNOCKOUT

TLC /,ti:,el'si:/ *noun* [noncount] *informal*: care and attention that is given to make someone feel better, to improve the bad condition of something, etc. • He just needed some rest and a little *TLC*. • It's an old house that needs some *TLC*. ♦ *TLC* is an abbreviation of "tender loving care."

TM *abbr* trademark

TN *abbr* Tennessee

TNT /,ti:,en'ti:/ *noun* [noncount]: a very powerful explosive

¹**to** /'tu:, tə/ *prep*

1 — used to indicate that the following verb is in the infinitive form • I like *to* swim. • "To be, or not *to* be—that is the question . . ." —Shakespeare, *Hamlet* (1600) • That's a tough question *to* answer. • I have an appointment *to* keep. • The soup is too hot *to* eat. • Do you need *to* use this? • I have *to* go now. • *To* look at him, you'd never think he was 80! • I didn't really like the movie, *to* be honest. — often used by itself in place of an infinitive verb when the verb is understood • You can go if you want *to*. [=you can go if you want to go] • "You left the door unlocked." "I didn't mean *to*."

2 **a** — used to indicate the place, person, or thing that someone or something moves toward • We are flying *to* London tomorrow. • They climbed *to* the top of the mountain. • I sent the e-mail *to* the wrong address. • He was sent *to* the principal. • The little girl ran *to* her mother. **b** — used to indicate the place where someone participates in a particular activity • Where do you go *to* school? • She wore her new red dress *to* the party. • We went *to* lunch together. • This is the child's first visit *to* the dentist.

3 — used to indicate the direction of something • There is a lake a mile *to* the south of here. • She had her back *to* me. [=her back was facing me] • The roads are parallel *to* each other.

4 — used to indicate the limit or range of something • The water was up *to* my waist. • The temperature outside rose *to* 100 degrees. • The word dates (back) *to* 1639. • The show's audience is mainly men from 18 *to* 30 years of age. • The band plays all kinds of music from country *to* hard rock. • The shirt is a light *to* medium pink. • The wines we tasted ranged from very poor *to* good *to* excellent. • *To* my knowledge, she has never visited Paris. [=I do not know of any time when she visited Paris] • I'll do it *to* the best of my ability. [=as well as I can]

5 **a** — used to indicate a particular result or end • The school was converted *to* an apartment building. • The vase was smashed *to* pieces. • The promotion increased her salary *to* \$50,000. • He was sentenced *to* death. • *To* their surprise, the train left on time. • A firefighter came *to* her rescue. [=a

firefighter rescued her] • It's 100 miles (from here) *to* the nearest town. **b** : according to (something) • The wedding gown was made *to* her specifications. [=was made in the way that she specified] • Add salt *to* taste. [=add as much salt as you want according to your taste]

6 a — used to indicate the end of a particular period of time • He works from nine *to* [=until, till] five. • Up *to* now, no one has beaten the record. • The movie keeps your attention from beginning *to* end. **b** : before the start of (something, such as an hour or event) • It is ten *to* six. [=it is 10 minutes before 6 o'clock] • She arrived at a quarter *to* five. • I can't believe there are only five days *to* the wedding. • How long *to* kickoff?

7 a — used to indicate the person or thing that receives an object or action • Give the letter *to* me. [=give me the letter] • The teacher spoke *to* his parents. • She showed a picture of her kids *to* me. • Refer *to* the dictionary. • Let me introduce you *to* my sister. • She was very rude *to* [=toward] him. • "He's smart," she thought *to* herself. **b** : in honor of (someone or something) • Let us drink *to* the bride and groom. • The people built temples *to* their gods. • The book is dedicated *to* her husband and children.

8 a — used to indicate how people or things are related, connected, etc. • She is married *to* my cousin. • He is related *to* me. • He is the assistant *to* the dean. • You have always been a good friend *to* me. • I can't find the key (that goes) *to* this door. • He owns the title *to* the property. **b** : in response to (something) • There wasn't much I could say *to* that. • The answer *to* your question is no. • What would you say *to* a drink? [=would you like a drink?] • Her dog comes *to* her call. [=comes when she calls]

9 — used to indicate the thing that causes something to happen. • She lost her mother *to* cancer. [=her mother died of cancer]

10 — used when one person or thing is being compared to another • He prefers a good book *to* a movie. • I have a pair of shoes similar *to* those. • His followers compared/likened him *to* a god. • This problem is nothing *to* [=is nothing when compared to] the ones we previously had. • We won the game ten *to* six. [=we won the game because we had ten points while the other team had only six] • Their odds of winning are ten *to* one.

11 — used to indicate that something is attached to or touches something else • He tied the dog's leash *to* the post. • She put her hand *to* [=on, against] her heart. • He gently touched the bow *to* the violin's strings.

12 — used to indicate the thing that contains or includes a certain number or amount of something • The pencils come ten *to* a box. [=there are ten pencils in each box] • There are two pints *to* a quart.

13 — used to indicate the sound that people hear while they do something or while something happens • Children were dancing *to* the music. • He woke *to* the sound of pouring rain.

14 a : in the opinion of (someone) • The plan is agreeable *to* all of us. • Her excuse sounded suspicious *to* me. • *To* him, the work seemed unnecessary. **b** : from the point of view of (someone) • Their marriage is news *to* me. [=I did not know about their marriage] • Your problems are of no concern *to* me! [=I don't care about your problems]

to yourself — used with *have* to say that you are the only one who is using something or who is in a place • I finally *had* the computer (all) *to myself*. • We *had* the whole house *to ourselves*. [=we were the only ones in the house]

Do not confuse *to* with *too* or *two*.

2to /'tu:/ *adv*

1 : into a state of being awake or conscious • He *brought her to* [=woke her up; made her conscious again] with smelling salts. • He *came to* [=he became conscious] an hour after the accident.

2 chiefly Brit : into a position that is closed or almost closed • The wind blew the door *to*.

to and fro : forward and backward • The baby rocked *to and fro* in the swing. : from one place to another • The small boat was tossed *to and fro* by the waves.

toad /'toud/ *noun, pl toads* [count]

1 : a small animal that looks like a frog but has dry skin and lives on land — see picture at FROG

2 informal : an unpleasant person • He's such a mean little *toad*.

toad-in-the-hole *noun* [noncount] *Brit* : a dish made of sausages cooked in batter

toad-stool /'toud,stu:l/ *noun, pl -stools* [count] : a kind of fungus that is similar to a mushroom, that consists of a round cap on a short stem, and that is often poisonous

1toady /'toudi/ *noun, pl toad-ies* [count] *informal + disapproving* : a person who praises and helps powerful people in order to get their approval • She's a real *toady* to the boss.

2toady *verb* **toadies; toad-ied; toady-ing** [no obj] *informal + disapproving* : to try to get the approval of someone powerful by saying and doing helpful and friendly things that are not sincere : to be a toady • He's always *toadying* to the boss.

1toast /'toust/ *noun* [noncount] : bread that has been sliced and then made crisp and brown by heat • a piece of *toast* • I *had toast* for breakfast. — see also FRENCH TOAST (as) *warm as toast* see **1WARM**

be toast *informal* : to be in a lot of trouble • If anyone finds out about this, we're *toast*. : to be completely ruined, defeated, etc. • His career *is toast*. [=is finished/ruined]

— compare **3TOAST**

2toast *verb* **toasts; toast-ed; toast-ing** [+ obj]

1 : to make (food, such as bread) crisp and brown by heat • He *toasted* the bread in the oven. • (*Brit*) a *toasted* cheese sandwich [= (US) a grilled cheese sandwich]

2 : to warm (yourself or part of your body) by being close to a fire or some other source of heat • He was *toasting* his feet by the fire.

— compare **4TOAST**

3toast *noun, pl toasts* [count] : an occurrence in which words are said that honor someone, express good wishes, etc., and people take a drink to show that they agree with what has been said • He *made/proposed a toast* to the bride and groom. • Everyone *drank a toast* to the bride and groom. **the toast of** : a person who is very popular in (a particular place) or among (a particular group of people) • After she won the championship, she was *the toast of* the town. • He's *the toast of* society.

— compare **1TOAST**

4toast *verb* **toasts; toasted; toasting** [+ obj] : to drink a toast to (someone) • Everyone *toasted* the bride and groom. — compare **2TOAST**

toast-er /'toustə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count] : an electrical device used for toasting bread — see picture at KITCHEN

toaster oven *noun, pl ~ -ens* [count] *US* : a small oven in which food is toasted, heated, or cooked — see picture at KITCHEN

toast-mas-ter /'toust,mæstə, *Brit* 'toust,mɑ:stə/ *noun, pl -ters* [count] : a person who introduces the speakers at a formal occasion (such as a banquet)

toasty /'tousti/ *adj* **toast-i-er; -est** *US, informal* : comfortably warm • The room was nice and *toasty*.

to-bac-co /tə'bækou/ *noun* [noncount]

1 : a plant that produces leaves which are smoked in cigarettes, pipes, etc. • a farm that grows *tobacco*

2 : the leaves of the tobacco plant used for smoking or chewing • *chewing/pipe tobacco*

3 : products (such as cigars or cigarettes) that are made from tobacco • a state tax on *tobacco* • the *tobacco* industry

to-bac-co-nist /tə'bækənɪst/ *noun, pl -nists*

1 [count] : a person who sells tobacco and tobacco products (such as cigarettes)

2 the tobacconist or the tobacconist's : a store where tobacco and tobacco products are sold • He bought some cigars at *the tobacconist's*.

to-be /tə'bi:/ *adj* — used to indicate what someone will be at a future time; used in combination • his bride-*to-be* [=his future bride] • the father-*to-be*

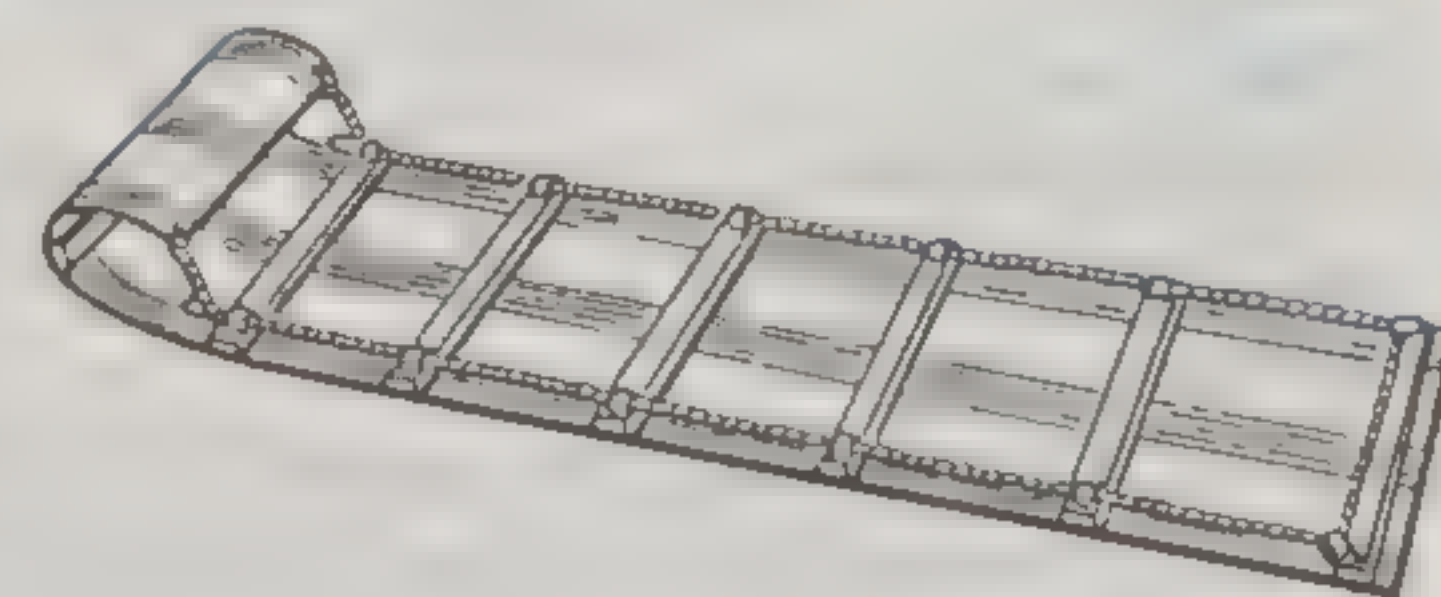
1to-bog-gan

/tə'bɑ:gən/ *noun, pl -gans* [count] : a long, light sled that has a curved front and that is used for sliding over snow and ice

2toboggan *verb* **-gans; -gated; -gan-ing** [no obj] : to ride on a toboggan especially down a hill • The kids *tobogganed* down the hill.

toc-ca-ta /tə'kɑ:tə/ *noun, pl -tas* [count] *music* : a piece of music for the piano or a similar instrument that is played very quickly

1to-day /tə'deɪ/ *noun* [noncount]



toboggan

1 : this day • Is *today* a holiday? • Have you read *today's* newspaper? • The sale ends *a week from today*. [=in one week]

2 : the present time • the computers of *today* = *today's* computers

²today *adv*

1 : on, during, or for this day • We have to finish *today*. • Earlier *today* I saw my cousin. • I have an appointment later *today*. • They announced *today* that he'll be promoted.

2 : at the present time : NOWADAYS • I worry about children *today*. • *Today*, more than a million people live there. • Cars aren't built *today* like they were 30 years ago.

tod·dle /'tɑ:dəl/ *verb* **tod·dles**; **tod·dled**; **tod·dling** [*no obj*]

1 of a young child : to walk with short, unsteady steps • The little boy *toddled* across the room.

2 always followed by an adverb or preposition : to walk along in a slow and relaxed way • I *toddled* off/down to the pub for a pint. • She *toddled* off to bed.

tod·dler /'tɑ:dlə/ *noun*, *pl* **tod·dlers** [*count*] : a young child who is just learning to walk

— **tod·dler·hood** /'tɑ:dlə,hud/ *noun* [*noncount*]

tod·dy /'tɑ:di/ *noun*, *pl* **-dies** [*count*] : a hot drink made with whisky, sugar, and water • a hot *toddy*

to·do /tə'du:/ *noun* [*singular*] *informal* : excited or angry activity that is usually not necessary or wanted • He made a big *to-do* [=fuss] about her birthday. • They're making a big *to-do* about nothing.

¹toe /'tu:/ *noun*, *pl* **toes** [*count*]

1 : one of the five separate parts at the end of your foot • He felt the sand/grass between his *toes*. • I accidentally stepped on her *toe*. • I *stubbed my toe* on the table's leg. — see picture at FOOT; compare FINGER; see also BIG TOE

2 : the part of a shoe or sock that covers the front part of your foot • My sock has a hole in the *toe*. • boots with steel *toes* • the *toe* of her boot — see picture at SHOE

3 : something that is shaped like a toe • the *toe* of the peninsula

dip/put/stick a toe in the water *informal* : to try an activity briefly to see if you like it • I'm not sure I want to join, but I'd like to *dip a toe in the water*.

from top to toe see ¹TOP

keep (someone) on their toes *informal* : to cause someone to be alert and prepared to deal with problems • Taking care of three kids really *keeps me on my toes*. • The boss made regular inspections in order to *keep employees on their toes*.

make your toes curl *informal* : to cause you to have a very strong and usually unpleasant feeling (such as a feeling of being embarrassed, annoyed, etc.) • Just thinking about my old boyfriend *makes my toes curl*.

point your toes see ²POINT

step on someone's toes (US) or *Brit tread on someone's toes* *informal* : to do something that upsets or offends someone • You might *step on the toes* of some important people with this project. • I don't want to *step on* anyone's *toes*.

²toe *verb* **toes**; **toed**; **toe·ing** [+ *obj*] chiefly US : to touch, reach, or kick (something) with your toe or with the end of your foot • She *toed* off her shoes. • The pitcher *toed* the rubber.

toe the line : to do what you are told or required to do even though you do not want to do it • We expect you to *toe the line* if you want to stay here. • He has to *toe the company line* to keep his job.

-toed /'təud/ *adj* : having a toe or toes of a specified kind or number — used in combination • a three-*toed* sloth • steel-*toed* shoes

TOEFL /'təufəl/ *trademark* — used for a test of the language skills of people who have learned English as a foreign language

toe·hold /'tu:,həuld/ *noun*, *pl* **-holds** [*count*]

1 : a place where your toes may be placed when you are climbing a cliff, a mountain, etc.

2 : a position that makes it possible to begin an activity or effort • His father helped him get a *toehold* [=foothold] in show business. • American companies looking for *toeholds* in foreign markets

toe·nail /'tu:,neɪl/ *noun*, *pl* **-nails** [*count*] : the hard covering at the end of a toe — see picture at FOOT

toe·rag /'tu:,ræg/ *noun*, *pl* **-rags** [*count*] *Brit slang, offensive* : a person you strongly dislike

toe-to-toe *adv, informal* — used to describe a fight in which two people stand close together facing each other • They fought each other *toe-to-toe*. • He *went toe-to-toe* (in a fight) with the schoolyard bully. — sometimes used figuratively • They *went toe-to-toe* [=competed against each other in a very exciting way] for 18 holes of golf.

— **toe-to-toe** *adj* • a *toe-to-toe* competition

toff /'tɑ:f/ *noun*, *pl* **toffs** [*count*] *Brit, informal + disapproving* : a person who belongs to a high social class

tof·fee /'tɑ:fi/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a hard, sticky candy made by boiling sugar and butter together

tof·fee-nosed /'tɑ:fi'nəuzd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *Brit, informal + disapproving* : having or showing the attitude of people who think they are better than other people : SNOOBISH • *toffee-nosed* art critics

to·fu /'tu:,fu:/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a soft, white food made from soybeans and often used in vegetarian cooking instead of meat — called also *bean curd*

tog /'tɑ:g/ *verb* **togs**; **tagged**; **tag·ging**

be/get tagged up/out *Brit, informal* : to be or get dressed in special clothes for a particular occasion or activity • He *got* (himself) *tagged up* for the meeting.

to·ga /'təugə/ *noun*, *pl* **-gas** [*count*] : a long, loose piece of clothing that was worn by people in ancient Rome

¹to·geth·er /tə'geðə/ *adv*

1 : with each other • They went to the party *together*. • They have been living *together* for eight years. • We enjoy spending time *together*. • The old friends were *together* again after many long years apart. • The partners have been in business *together* since 1971. • lie/sit down *together*

2 : in or into one group, mixture, piece, etc. • They gathered *together* to celebrate. • The presentation binds/joins/lumps/ties *together* several concepts. • Blend/Combine/Mix the ingredients *together*. • The old fence was held *together* by chicken wire. • two sticks of dynamite bound *together* by tape

3 : in a close relationship • She got back *together* with her old boyfriend. • How long have you two been going *together*? • They've been *together* for almost five years.

4 : so that two or more people or things touch • The doors banged *together*. • He knocked the sticks *together*.

5 : at the same time • They all cheered *together*.

6 a : to each other • Add the numbers *together* to get the total. **b** : considered as a whole • All *together* there were 15 of us. • He earns more than all of us *together*. [=combined]

usage see ALTOGETHER

come together see ¹COME

get together, get your act together see GET

hang together see ¹HANG

hold together see ¹HOLD

pull together see ¹PULL

throw together see ¹THROW

together with : in addition to (someone or something) • *Together with* myself and my husband, four people will be attending. • The comment, *together with* [=along with] her expression, suggested that she was very upset. • The fingerprint *together with* the other evidence was enough to prove that he was there.

²together *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *informal* : confident, organized, and able to deal with problems in a calm and skillful way • She's always so *together*. • He's a very *together* person.

to·geth·er·ness /tə'geðənəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a state or feeling of closeness and happiness among people who are together as friends, family members, etc. • family *togetherness* • trying to encourage a sense of *togetherness* among the people in the community

¹tog·gle /'tɑ:gəl/ *noun*, *pl* **tog·gles** [*count*]

1 : a small piece of wood, plastic, metal, etc., that is pushed through a loop or hole to fasten one part of something to another part • Instead of buttons, the jacket has *toggles*.

2 computers : a setting that can be switched between two different options by pressing a single key, making a single choice from a menu, etc.

²toggle *verb* **toggles**; **tog·gled**; **tog·gling** [*no obj*] *computers* : to switch between two options by pressing a single key, making a single choice from a menu, etc. • The program lets you *toggle* easily between two different views.

toggle switch *noun*, *pl* ~ **switches** [*count*] : a switch that turns the flow of electricity to a machine on and off

togs /'tɑ:gz/ *noun* [*plural*] *Brit, informal* : CLOTHES • fancy *togs*

¹toil /'təjəl/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal + literary* : work that is difficult and unpleasant and that lasts for a long time : long,

hard labor • days of *toil* and sweat

²**toil** *verb* **toils; toiled; toil-ing** [*no obj*] *formal + literary*

1 : to work very hard for a long time • He's been *toiling* (away) in his workshop. • workers *toiling* in the fields

2 : to move slowly and with a lot of effort • They were *toiling* up a steep hill.

– **toil-er** /'tɔɪlə/ *noun, pl -ers* [*count*]

toi-let /'tɔɪlə/ *noun, pl -lets* [*count*]

1 : a large bowl attached to a pipe that is used for getting rid of bodily waste and then flushed with water • flush the *toilet* • One of the kids needed to use the *toilet*. • a *toilet* brush/seat/bowl • (Brit) The little boy told his mother that he had to go to the *toilet*. [=use the toilet; (US) go to the bathroom] — see picture at BATHROOM

2 *chiefly Brit* : BATHROOM • a public *toilet* [=restroom] • He's in the *toilet*. [=loo]

3 *old-fashioned* : the act or process of washing and dressing yourself • a painting of a woman at her *toilet*

flush something down the toilet see ²FLUSH

toilet bag *noun, pl ~ bags* [*count*] *Brit* : a small bag that you use to carry a toothbrush, soap, etc., while traveling

toilet paper *noun* [*noncount*] : thin, soft paper used to clean yourself after you have used the toilet — called also *toilet tissue*, (Brit) *lavatory paper*; see picture at BATHROOM

toi-let-ries /'tɔɪlətriz/ *noun* [*plural*] : things (such as soap, lotions, etc.) that are used to clean yourself and make yourself look neat

toilet roll *noun, pl ~ rolls* [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : a roll of toilet paper

toilet training *noun* [*noncount*] : the process of teaching a small child to use the toilet — called also *potty training*

– **toilet train** *verb* ~ **trains; ~ trained; ~ training** [+ *obj*]

• We're planning to *toilet train* him next summer. – **toilet-trained** *adj* • The twins are *toilet-trained* now.

toilet water *noun* [*noncount*] : a liquid that has a light, pleasant smell and that people put on their skin : a kind of perfume that consists mostly of water and does not have a strong scent

toke /'tɒk/ *verb* **tokes; toked; tok-ing** *informal* : to inhale marijuana smoke [*no obj*] *toke* on a joint [+ *obj*] *toke* a joint

– **toke** *noun, pl tokes* [*count*] • He took a *toke* off the joint.

¹**to-ken** /'tɒkən/ *noun, pl -kens* [*count*]

1 : a round piece of metal or plastic that is used instead of money in some machines : an object that looks like a coin and is used in place of a coin • a bus/subway *token*

2 : something that is a symbol of a feeling, event, etc. — usually + *of* • Consider this gift a *token of* my affection/gratitude. • a *token of* our friendship

3 *Brit* : GIFT CERTIFICATE • a book/record/gift *token*

by the same token : for the same reason : in the same way — used to introduce a statement that says something more and often something different about the same situation referred to by a previous statement • The result was disappointing, but *by the same token*, it could have been much worse.

²**token** *adj, always used before a noun, disapproving*

1 — used to describe something that is done with very little effort and only to give the appearance that an effort is being made • The government has made only a *token* effort to end homelessness. • *token* resistance • a *token* gesture

2 : included in a group only to prevent criticism that people of a particular kind are being unfairly left out • All the people who work there are men except for a couple of *token* women. • The ad campaign features a few *token* minorities.

to-ken-ism /'tɒkənɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the practice of doing something (such as hiring a person who belongs to a minority group) only to prevent criticism and give the appearance that people are being treated fairly • Did the company choose her for her merits, or merely as an act of *token-ism*?

told *past tense and past participle of TELL*

tol-er-able /'tɒlərəbəl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 : unpleasant but able to be accepted or tolerated • The heat was *tolerable* for only a short time. • a *tolerable* [=bearable] level of pain • This kind of behavior is not *tolerable*. [=acceptable] — opposite INTOLERABLE

2 : good enough to be accepted but not very good • a *tolerable* effort

– **tol-er-ably** /'tɒlərəbli/ *adv* • He did *tolerably* well.

tol-er-ance /'tɒlərəns/ *noun*

1 : willingness to accept feelings, habits, or beliefs that are different from your own [*noncount*] religious *tolerance*

[*singular*] a *tolerance* for/of other lifestyles — see also ZERO TOLERANCE

2 : the ability to accept, experience, or survive something harmful or unpleasant [*count*] The plants have a high/low *tolerance* for/of heat. [*noncount*] I don't have much *tolerance* for cold weather. [=I dislike cold weather; cold weather makes me uncomfortable] • I have no *tolerance* for such behavior. [=I cannot accept/tolerate such behavior]

3 *medical* : your body's ability to become adjusted to something (such as a drug) so that its effects are experienced less strongly [*count*] Some patients gradually develop a *tolerance* for the drug and need to be given a larger dose. [*noncount*] Some patients develop greater *tolerance* for the drug's effects.

tol-er-ant /'tɒlərənt/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 : willing to accept feelings, habits, or beliefs that are different from your own • a *tolerant* society/community • *tolerant* attitudes/opinions/views — often + *of* • The people in the community are *tolerant of* each other's differences.

2 : able to allow or accept something that is harmful, unpleasant, etc. — often + *of* • These plants are *tolerant of* hot climates. [=are able to live and grow in hot climates] • Our teacher is not *tolerant of* bad grammar. [=will not tolerate/accept bad grammar]

– **tol-er-ant-ly** *adv*

tol-er-ate /'tɒləreɪt/ *verb* **-ates; -at-ed; -ating** [+ *obj*]

1 : to allow (something that is bad, unpleasant, etc.) to exist, happen, or be done • Our teacher will not *tolerate* bad grammar. • Racist or sexist behavior will not be *tolerated*. • I can't *tolerate* that noise. • The government cannot *tolerate* lawlessness. • How can you *tolerate* such laziness?

2 : to experience (something harmful or unpleasant) without being harmed • These plants *tolerate* drought well.

3 : to accept the feelings, behavior, or beliefs of (someone) • I don't like my boss, but I *tolerate* him.

– **tol-er-a-tion** /'tɒlə'reɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] • religious *toleration*

¹**toll** /'tɒl/ *noun, pl tolls* [*count*]

1 **a** : an amount of money that you are required to pay for the use of a road or bridge • We had to stop to pay the *toll*. • a *toll* road/bridge [=a road/bridge that you can use only if you pay a toll] **b** *chiefly US* : an amount of money paid for a long-distance telephone call — see also TOLL CALL, TOLL-FREE

2 : the number of people who are killed or injured in an accident, disaster, war, etc. — usually singular • The full/final *toll* of the disaster is not yet known. — see also DEATH TOLL

take a toll or take its toll : to have a serious, bad effect on someone or something : to cause harm or damage • If you keep working so hard, the stress will eventually *take its toll*. [=your health will be harmed] — often + *on* • The stress will *take its toll on* you. • Too much sunlight can *take a* (heavy) *toll on* your skin. [=can harm your skin] • Her illness has *taken a toll on* her marriage.

– compare ³TOLL

²**toll** *verb* **tolls; tolled; toll-ing**

1 : to ring slowly [*no obj*] Church bells *toll*ed as people gathered for the service. [+ *obj*] The bells were *toll*ed for the service.

2 [+ *obj*] : to make (something) known by ringing • The church bells *toll*ed the hour.

³**toll** *noun, pl tolls* [*count*]

1 : the sound of bells being rung slowly • The *toll* of the bells sounded throughout the village.

2 : a single sound made by a ringing bell • He counted the *tolls* of the bell.

– compare ¹TOLL

toll-booth /'tɒl,bu:θ/ *noun, pl -booths* [*count*] : a small building where you pay a toll to use a road or bridge

toll call *noun, pl ~ calls* [*count*] *US* : a long-distance telephone call for which you must pay an extra amount of money — called also (Brit) *trunk call*

toll-free /'tɒl'fri:/ *adj, US* : allowing you to make a long-distance telephone call without having to pay a toll • a *toll-free* call/number

– **toll-free** *adv* • call *toll-free*

toll-gate /'tɒl,geɪt/ *noun, pl -gates* [*count*] : a place where the driver of a vehicle must pay a toll to go through a gate that blocks a road

toll-house /'tɒl,haʊs/ *noun, pl -houses* [*count*] : a building where you pay a toll to use a road or bridge

toll plaza *noun, pl ~ -zas* [*count*] : PLAZA 3b

tom /'tɑ:m/ *noun*, *pl* **toms** [count]

1 : TOMCAT

2 : a male turkey

tom-a-hawk /'tɑ:mi,hɑ:k/ *noun*, *pl* **-hawks** [count] : a small ax used as a weapon by Native Americans

to-ma-to /tə'meɪtəʊ, Brit tə'mɑ:təʊ/ *noun*, *pl* **-toes** [count] : a round, soft, red fruit that is eaten raw or cooked and that is often used in salads, sandwiches, sauces, etc. • **crushed to-matoes** — often used before another noun • **tomato soup/sauce/paste/juice** — see color picture on page C4; see also CHERRY TOMATO, PLUM TOMATO

tomato ketchup *noun* [noncount] : KETCHUP

tomb /'tu:m/ *noun*, *pl* **tombs** [count] : a building or chamber above or below the ground in which a dead body is kept • the **tomb** of Alexander the Great

tom-bo-la /'tɑ:mbələ, Brit tɒm'bəʊlə/ *noun*, *pl* **-las** [count] Brit : ¹RAFFLE

tom-boy /'tɑ:m,bɔɪ/ *noun*, *pl* **-boys** [count] : a girl who enjoys things that people think are more suited to boys

— **tom-boy-ish** /'tɑ:m,bɔɪʃ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] • **tomboy-ish** behavior/clothing

tomb-stone /'tu:m,stəʊn/ *noun*, *pl* **-stones** [count] : GRAVESTONE

tom-cat /'tɑ:m,kæt/ *noun*, *pl* **-cats** [count] : a male cat — called also *tom*

Tom, Dick, and Har-ry /,tɑ:m,dɪkənd'heri/ *noun* any/every **Tom, Dick, and Harry** *informal* : any person : ANYONE • We don't just hand out jobs to *every Tom, Dick, and Harry* who walks in here.

tome /'təʊm/ *noun*, *pl* **tomes** [count] *formal* : a very large, thick book • a long **tome** on European history

tom-fool-ery /,tɑ:m'fu:ləri/ *noun* [noncount] *old-fashioned* : playful or silly behavior • There was a lot of **tomfoolery** going on behind the scenes.

¹**to-mor-row** /tə'marəʊ/ *noun*

1 [noncount] : the day after today • **Tomorrow** is a school day. • She is giving a presentation at **tomorrow's** meeting.

2 : the future [noncount] Who knows what **tomorrow** may bring? • designing the car of **tomorrow** • Today's children are **tomorrow's** leaders. [singular] All we can do is hope for a better **tomorrow**.

like there's no tomorrow : in a quick and careless way without any thought about the future • He's spending money **like there's no tomorrow**. [=he is spending a lot of money now and not saving any for the future]

²**tomorrow** *adv* : on, during, or for the day after today • I'll finish the housework **tomorrow**. • Is it supposed to rain **tomorrow**? • He has an interview **tomorrow**. • **Tomorrow** we're going fishing.

tom-tom /'tɑ:m,tɑ:m/ *noun*, *pl* **-toms** [count] : a tall, narrow drum that is usually played with the hands

ton /'tʌn/ *noun*, *pl* **tons** [count]

1 *pl* also **ton** **a** US : a unit for measuring weight that equals 2,000 pounds (907 kilograms) **b** Brit : a unit for measuring weight that equals 2,240 pounds (1,016 kilograms) — see also MEGATON, METRIC TON

2 *informal* : a large amount • I still have a **ton** to do before the guests arrive. • Her purse **weighs a ton**. [=is very heavy] — often + *of* • He earns a **ton of** money. • I've got **tons of** homework to do.

like a ton of bricks see ¹BRICK

ton-al /'təʊnəl/ *adj*

1 *technical* : of or relating to musical or color tones • **tonal** variations

2 *music* : having or based in a particular key • traditional **tonal** music — opposite ATONAL

— **to-nal-i-ty** /təʊ'næləti/ *noun*, *pl* **-ties** [count, noncount] • the **tonality** of a piece of music — **ton-al-ly** *adv*

¹**tone** /'təʊn/ *noun*, *pl* **tones**

1 [count] **a** : the quality of a person's voice • She spoke in a sharp **tone**. [=he spoke sharply] • He replied in a friendly **tone**. • They spoke in hushed/conspiratorial **tones**. • Don't use that rude **tone of voice** with me. **b** : the quality of a sound produced by a musical instrument or singing voice • the low **tones** of an organ

2 [count] **a** : a quality, feeling, or attitude expressed by the words that someone uses in speaking or writing • The speech had religious **tones** to it. • The author's **tone** shows her attitude toward the subject. • The professor's condescending **tone** irritated some students. **b** : the general quality of a place, situation, etc. • the city's upbeat **tone** • The seriousness

of his opening statement **set the tone** for/of the meeting. [=his opening statement established that the meeting would be serious]

3 [count] **a** : a shade of color • a bright, dark, or light **tone** of blue • the soft **tones** of the painting — see also EARTH TONE **b** : a small amount of a color • gray with a slightly bluish **tone** [=tint]

4 [noncount] : strength and firmness of the muscles or skin • These exercises help build muscle **tone**.

5 [noncount] : the highness or lowness of a spoken syllable • a rising/falling **tone** — see also TONE LANGUAGE

6 [count] : a sound made as a signal by a machine (such as a telephone or answering machine) • Please leave a message after the **tone**. • (Brit) I keep getting the **engaged tone**. [= (US) busy signal; the sound which indicates that the telephone line is already being used] — see also DIAL TONE, RINGTONE

7 [count] *music* **a** : a sound of a particular pitch and vibration • the different **tones** [=notes] of a musical scale : **b** chiefly Brit : WHOLE STEP

²**tone** *verb* **tones; toned; ton-ing** [+ *obj*] : to give strength and firmness to (something, such as muscles or skin) • These exercises are a good way to **tone** (up) your stomach muscles. **tone down** [phrasal verb] **tone** (something) down or **tone down** (something) 1 : to make (something) less forceful, offensive, or harsh • People will be more likely to listen to you if you **tone down** your language a little. 2 : to make (something) less bright or colorful • She **toned down** her wardrobe.

tone in [phrasal verb] **tone in with** (something) Brit : to match the color of (something) • That tie **tones in** well with your suit.

toned *adj*

1 : having or showing strength or firmness • **toned** muscles • his **toned** body

2 : having a certain type of tone or color — used in combination • olive-toned skin • sepia-toned photographs

tone-deaf /'təʊn,def/ *adj* : unable to hear the difference between musical notes or sing the right musical notes

tone language *noun*, *pl* ~ **-guages** [count] : a language (such as Chinese) in which changes in the tone of words indicate different meanings

ton-er /'təʊnə/ *noun*, *pl* **-ers**

1 [noncount] : a dark powder that is used like ink in machines that print and copy documents • The copier needs **toner**.

2 [count, noncount] : a liquid that is used to clean and tighten the skin

tongs /'tɑ:ŋz/ *noun* [plural] : a tool used for lifting or holding objects that is made of two long pieces connected at one end or in the middle • ice/salad **tongs** • a pair of **tongs**

hammer and tongs see ¹HAMMER

¹**tongue** /'tʌŋ/ *noun*, *pl* **tongues**

1 **a** [count] : the soft, movable part in the mouth that is used for tasting and eating food and in human beings for speaking • The cow ran its **tongue** over its lips. • The taste of the spice was still on her **tongue**. • The little girl stuck her **tongue** out at me. • My mom shook her head and **clicked her tongue** [=made a noise with her tongue] in disapproval. — see picture at MOUTH **b** [count, noncount] : the tongue of an animal (such as an ox or sheep) that is eaten as food

2 [count] : LANGUAGE • He spoke in a foreign **tongue**. • English is my native **tongue**. • They speak the same **tongue**. — see also MOTHER TONGUE

3 [count] : a particular way or quality of speaking • His sharp/quick **tongue** is going to get him into trouble someday. • Although she was angry, she **kept a civil tongue**. [=she was polite] • **Watch your tongue**, young man! [=don't say rude or offensive things] — see also TONGUED

4 [count] : something that is shaped like a tongue — + *of* • **tongues of fire/flame**

5 [count] : a long flap that is under the laces or buckles of a shoe — see picture at SHOE

6 [count] : a long, raised part at the end of a board that extends out and fits into a long cut (called a groove) in another board — see also TONGUE-AND-GROOVE

a slip of the tongue see ²SLIP

bite your tongue see ¹BITE

Cat got your tongue? see CAT

get your tongue around *informal* ♦ If you cannot **get your tongue around** a word or phrase, you have difficulty saying it. • I can't **get my tongue around** his last name.

hold your tongue see ¹HOLD

loosen someone's tongue see LOOSEN

on the tip of your tongue see ³TIP

roll/trip off the tongue : to be easy to say or pronounce •

The name just *rolls off the tongue*.

speak in tongues ✧ Someone who is *speaking in tongues* is saying strange words that no one can understand, especially as part of a religious experience.

speak/talk with (a) forked tongue see FORKED

tongues (are) wagging ✧ If something *sets/gets tongues wagging* or if *tongues are wagging*, people are talking a lot about something. • The news of their engagement *set tongues wagging*. = *Tongues were wagging over their engagement*.

with (your) tongue in (your) cheek : TONGUE IN CHEEK • He was talking *with his tongue in his cheek*.

²**tongue** *verb* **tongues; tongued; tonguing**

1 : to produce separate notes when you are blowing air through a musical instrument (such as a trumpet) by using your tongue to briefly stop the flow of air [+ *obj*] learning how to *tongue* notes on the clarinet [no *obj*] notes produced by *tonguing*

2 [+ *obj*] : to touch or lick something with your tongue • *tongue* a cigarette

tongue-and-groove *adj* : joining pieces of wood together by having a long, raised part (called a tongue) on the edge of one board that fits into a long cut (called a groove) on the edge of another board • *tongue-and-groove* flooring

tongued /'tʌŋd/ *adj* : having a particular way or quality of speaking — used in combination • *smooth-tongued* — see also SHARP-TONGUED, SILVER-TONGUED

tongue depressor *noun*, *pl* ~ -sors [count] *US* : a thin piece of wood that is rounded at both ends and that a doctor uses to press down on a patient's tongue when looking in the patient's throat — called also (*Brit*) *spatula*

tongue in cheek *adv* : in a way that is not serious and that is meant to be funny • The whole interview was done *tongue in cheek*.

— **tongue-in-cheek** *adj* • a *tongue-in-cheek* comment • The movie is half serious and half *tongue-in-cheek*.

tongue-lash-ing *noun*, *pl* -ings [count] *informal* : an occurrence in which someone speaks in a very angry and critical way to someone who has done something wrong : a severe scolding • She gave him quite a *tongue-lashing* when he failed to file the papers on time.

tongue-tied /'tʌŋ,taid/ *adj* : unable to speak because you are nervous or shy • She became *tongue-tied* whenever he was around.

tongue twister *noun*, *pl* ~ -ers [count] : a word, name, phrase, or sentence that is hard to say • Her last name is a real *tongue twister*.

ton-ic /'tɔ:nɪk/ *noun*, *pl* -ics

1 [count, noncount] : a type of water that has bubbles in it, has a bitter taste, and is often used in alcoholic drinks • gin and *tonic* — called also *tonic water*

2 [count] **a** : something that makes you feel healthier and more relaxed — usually singular • A weekend in the mountains was always a *tonic* for him. • To her, classical music is a *tonic*. **b** : a medicine that brings you back to a normal physical or mental condition • an herbal *tonic* **c** *somewhat old-fashioned* : a liquid that is used on your hair to make it healthier • a hair *tonic*

3 [count] *music* : the main note of a musical key

¹**to-night** /tə'naɪt/ *noun* [noncount] : this night or the night following this day • *Tonight* will be rainy. • *Tonight's* party should be fun. • He is staying until *tonight*.

²**tonight** *adv* : on this night or on the night following this day • It is cold *tonight*. • This afternoon I'm busy, but *tonight* I'm free. • He's leaving *tonight*.

ton-nage /'tʌnɪdʒ/ *noun*, *pl* -nag-es [count, noncount]

1 : the size of a ship or the total weight that it carries in tons

2 : the total weight or amount of something in tons

tonne /'tʌn/ *noun*, *pl* tonnes [count] : METRIC TON

ton-sil /'tɔ:nsəl/ *noun*, *pl* -sils [count] : either one of the pair of round, soft parts on the inside of your throat • He *had his tonsils out* [=had an operation to remove his tonsils] when he was 10.

ton-sil-lec-to-my /,tɔ:nsə'lektəmi/ *noun*, *pl* -mies [count] *medical* : an operation to remove a person's tonsils • The surgeon performed a *tonsillectomy*.

ton-sil-li-tis /,tɔ:nsə'lartɪs/ *noun* [noncount] *medical* : a condition in which a person's tonsils are painful and swollen

ton-sure /'tɔ:nʃə/ *noun*, *pl* -sures [count] : a round, shaved area on the top of a priest's or monk's head

— **ton-sured** /'tɔ:nʃəd/ *adj* • a *tonsured* monk

tony /'təʊni/ *adj* **ton-i-er; -est** [also more ~; most ~] *US, informal* : very expensive and fashionable • *tony* private schools • a *tony* restaurant/hotel

To-ny /'təʊni/ *noun*, *pl* -nys [count] : an award given every year in New York City for the best plays, actors, directors, etc., in the theater • She won a *Tony* (award) for her performance in the play.

too /'tu:/ *adv*

1 *usually used at the end of a sentence or clause* : in addition : ALSO • We are selling the house and the furniture *too*. • He saw something, and she saw it *too*. • "I'm hungry." "Me *too*." • I want to go *too*! • My new girlfriend is funny and pretty—and rich *too*. [=besides] — often used for emphasis • He lost his job—and right after he bought a house *too*. • We decided not to go out that night. And it was a good thing *too*, because we had a big snowstorm. • He finally proposed to her. It's about time *too*.

2 *always used before an adjective or adverb* : more than what is wanted, needed, acceptable, possible, etc. • The soup is *too* hot. • The offer was *too* good to refuse. • This shirt is way/*much too* big for me. • I'm *too* old for rock concerts. = I'm *too* old to go to rock concerts. • She is much/far *too* young to be watching this movie. • Thank you for your donation. You are *too* kind. [=you are very kind] • You gave me *too* many cards. • I have *too* much to do. • He works much *too* hard. • You work *too* slowly. • Slow down. You're talking *too* fast. • Don't stay *too* long. • It's *too* late to do anything about it now. • Her efforts to improve her grade were *too little, too late*. [=her efforts were not enough and not soon enough to make a difference] • She knew *all/only too* well [=unfortunately, she knew very well] what the punishment would be. • This kind of mistake happens *all too* often. [=happens more often than it should] — see also *too bad* at ¹BAD, *too much* at ¹MUCH

3 *always used before an adjective or adverb* : to a high degree or extent : very or extremely — used in negative statements • I'm not *too* [=so] sure that he's right. [=I think he may be wrong] • The climb up the mountain was not *too* hard. • The students didn't seem *too* interested. • She's not doing *too* well. • He doesn't seem *too* upset. • It is not *too* cold outside. • He was *none too pleased* [=he was not pleased] to hear that I didn't do what he asked.

4 *chiefly US, informal* : most certainly • "You're not strong enough to lift that box." "I am *too*." [=I am so; yes, I am] • "I didn't do it." "You did *too*." [=yes, you did (do it)]

Do not confuse *too* with *to* or *two*.

took *past tense of* ¹TAKE

¹**tool** /'tu:/ *noun*, *pl* tools [count]

1 : something (such as a hammer, saw, shovel, etc.) that you hold in your hand and use for a particular task • carpentry/garden *tools* • power *tools* [=tools that use electricity] • I don't have the right *tools* to fix the engine. — see also HAND TOOL, MACHINE TOOL *synonyms* see ¹IMPLEMENT

2 **a** : something that is used to do a job or activity • Words are a writer's *tools*. **b** : something that helps to get or achieve something • Words are *tools* for communication. • A book's cover can be a great marketing *tool*. • The Internet has become an important research *tool*. • He has the *tools* [=natural skills] to be a great pitcher.

3 *disapproving* **a** : someone or something that is used or controlled by another person or group — often + *of* • a politician who is just a *tool of* special interests • He claims the government has become a *tool of* giant corporations. **b** *informal* : a foolish person who can easily be used or tricked by others • He's such a *tool*.

4 *informal + impolite* : a man's penis

tools of the/your trade see ¹TRADE

²**tool** *verb* **tools; tooled; tooling**

1 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [no *obj*] *US, informal* : to drive or ride in a vehicle • We *tooled along/up/down* the highway. • I *tooled around* (town) all day.

2 [+ *obj*] : to shape, form, or finish (something) with a tool • He *tooled* a design on the leather belt. • a belt made of *tooled* leather

tool up [*phrasal verb*] **tool (something) up or tool up (something)** : to provide (a factory) with machines and tools for producing something • The factory was not *tooled up* for this type of production.

tool·bar /'tu:l,bæ/ *noun*, *pl* **-bars** [*count*] : a row of icons on a computer screen that allow you to do various things when you are using a particular program — see picture at COMPUTER; compare TASKBAR

tool·box /'tu:l,bɔ:ks/ *noun*, *pl* **-box·es** [*count*] : a box for storing or carrying tools — see picture at CARPENTRY

tool kit *noun*, *pl* ~ **kits** [*count*] : a set of tools • A pair of pliers is a good thing to have in your *tool kit*.

tool·mak·er /'tu:l,mekə/ *noun*, *pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person or company that makes tools • The company is a leading *toolmaker*.

– **tool·mak·ing** /'tu:l,mekɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*]

tool·shed /'tu:l,ʃed/ *noun*, *pl* **-sheds** [*count*] : a small building for storing tools — see picture at GARDENING

toon·ie /'tu:ni/ *noun*, *pl* **-nies** [*count*] *Canada* : a coin that is worth two Canadian dollars

toot /'tu:t/ *verb* **toots**; **toot·ed**; **toot·ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to make a short, high sound with a horn or whistle • She *tooted* [=honked] at me as she drove past. • The horn *tooted*.

2 [+ *obj*] : to cause (a horn or whistle) to make a short high sound • The driver *tooted* [=honked] his horn angrily. • The referee *tooted* [=blew] his whistle.

toot your own horn see ¹HORN

– **toot** *noun*, *pl* **toots** [*count*] • I heard the *toot* of a horn. • She gave the horn a *toot*. [=she tooted the horn]

tooth /'tu:θ/ *noun*, *pl* **teeth** /'ti:θ/

¹ [*count*] : one of the hard white objects inside the mouth that are used for biting and chewing • The dentist will have to pull that *tooth*. • You should brush/clean your *teeth* every morning and night. • She clenched her *teeth* in anger. • He has a set of false *teeth*. • a loose *tooth* • *tooth* decay • She *sank her teeth into* [=bit] the apple. — see picture at MOUTH; see also BABY TOOTH, BUCK TEETH, EYETOOTH, MILK TOOTH, SWEET TOOTH, WISDOM TOOTH

2 [*count*] : a sharp or pointed object that sticks out of something and is part of a row of similar objects • the *teeth* of a saw/comb

3 **teeth** [*plural*] : the power that makes something effective • drug laws with *teeth* • The labor union showed that it *has teeth*.

a kick in the teeth see ²KICK

an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth see ¹EYE

by the skin of your teeth see ¹SKIN

cut a tooth, cut your teeth see ¹CUT

fly in the teeth of see ¹FLY

get/take the bit between your teeth see ²BIT

get your teeth into or chiefly US sink your teeth into : to become fully involved in (something, such as a new activity) : to do or deal with (something) with a lot of energy, interest, etc. • He finally has a project he can *get his teeth into*.

grit your teeth see ²GRIT

in the teeth of 1 *or into the teeth of* : directly against (a strong wind, storm, etc.) • They sailed *in/into the teeth of* the wind. 2 : despite (something) • A shopping mall was built *in the teeth of* fierce opposition.

like pulling teeth — used to say that something is very difficult and frustrating • Getting him to make a decision is *like pulling teeth*. [=it is very hard to get him to make a decision]

long in the tooth informal : no longer young : OLD • Isn't she a little *long in the tooth* for those kinds of antics?

set your teeth on edge ✧ If a sound, taste, etc., *sets your teeth on edge*, it makes your body feel tense or uncomfortable. • That awful squeaking is enough to *set my teeth on edge*!

tooth and nail : with a lot of effort and determination • They fought *tooth and nail*.

to the teeth : fully or completely • The men were *armed to the teeth*. [=the men had a lot of weapons]

tooth·ache /'tu:θ,eɪk/ *noun*, *pl* **-aches** : pain in or near a tooth [*count*] He has a *toothache*. [*noncount*] (*Brit*) He's got *toothache*.

tooth·brush /'tu:θ,bɹʌʃ/ *noun*, *pl* **-brush·es** [*count*] : a brush for cleaning your teeth — see picture at GROOMING

toothed /'tu:θt/ *adj* : having teeth • a *toothed* whale : having teeth of a specified kind — often used in combination • *buck-toothed* • *gap-toothed*

tooth fairy *noun*

the tooth fairy : an imaginary creature who is supposed to leave money for children while they sleep in exchange for a tooth that has come out

tooth·less /'tu:θləs/ *adj*

1 : having or showing no teeth • a *toothless* whale • a *toothless* smile • He is completely *toothless*.

2 : not effective or powerful • *toothless* legislation

tooth·paste /'tu:θ,peɪst/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a substance that is used for cleaning teeth • a tube of *toothpaste* — see picture at GROOMING

tooth·pick /'tu:θ,pɪk/ *noun*, *pl* **-picks** [*count*] : a short, pointed stick used for removing small pieces of food from between your teeth

tooth·some /'tu:θsəm/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having a pleasing taste • *toothsome* [= (more commonly) *tasty*, *delicious*] pies

toothy /'tu:θi/ *adj* **tooth·i·er**; **-est** : having or showing many teeth • a *toothy* mouth/grin/smile

– **tooth·i·ly** /'tu:θəli/ *adv* • She smiled *toothily*.

too·tle /'tu:tl/ *verb* **too·tles**; **too·tled**; **too·tling** *Brit, informal*

1 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to drive or move slowly • We *tootled* along the highway. • I *tootled* around (town) all day.

2 : to play a series of notes on a flute, horn, etc., by blowing into it [*no obj*] He *tootled* on the flute. [+ *obj*] He *tootled* his flute.

toots /'tu:ts/ *noun* [*noncount*] *US slang, old-fashioned* — used to address a woman or girl • How are you, *toots*? • (*impolite*) Hey, *toots*—get out of the way! ✧ *Toots* is often used in a joking way but may be considered offensive when you use it to address a woman you do not know well.

toot·sy also **toot·sie** /'tu:tsi/ *noun*, *pl* **-sies** [*count*] *informal* : FOOT • She was using a blanket to keep her *tootsies* warm.

¹**top** /'tɑ:p/ *noun*, *pl* **tops**

1 [*count*] : the highest part, point, or level of something • The *tops* of the walls are painted and the bottoms are covered in wood paneling. — usually singular • He was calling down from the *top* of the stairs. • Please write your name on the *top* of the page. • She climbed to the *top* of the mountain. • She had a scratch on the *top* of her foot. • He filled the glass to the *top*.

2 [*count*] : an upper surface or edge of something • a table with a glass *top* — see also COOKTOP, COUNTERTOP, DESKTOP, TABLETOP

3 [*count*] : something that covers the upper part or opening of something • I'm looking for a pen with a red *top*. [=cap] • She took the *top* [=lid] off the jar. • The box's *top* had been removed. • I hate it when you leave the *top* off the toothpaste!

4 [*noncount*] : the highest position in rank, success, or importance • He is at the *top* of his profession. • The company's new CEO started at the bottom and worked her way to the *top*. • employees at the *top* of the pay scale • The team is at the *top* of the league. • He graduated *at the top of his/the class*. [=his grades were among the highest in his class] • The order came *straight from the top*. [=from the person with the most authority or power] • Studying for the test is on the *top of my list*. [=it is the first and most important thing that I need to do]

5 [*count*] : a piece of clothing that is worn on the upper part of your body • She was wearing a blue silk *top* and black pants. • a bikini *top* — see also TANK TOP

6 [*noncount*] *informal* : the beginning • We'll have another news update for you at the *top* of the hour. [=at the start of the next hour] • Let's rehearse the scene *from the top*. • OK, everybody. Let's *take it from the top*. [=start from the beginning of a scene, song, etc.]

7 [*noncount*] : the first half of an inning in baseball • the *top* of the sixth inning

8 [*noncount*] *chiefly Brit* : the part of something (such as a street) that is farthest away • Try the shop at the *top* of the road.

9 [*noncount*] *chiefly Brit* : the highest gear of a vehicle • She shifted into *top* once she got on the highway.

at the top of the heap see ¹HEAP

at the top of the pile see ¹PILE

at the top of your voice/lungs : in the loudest way possible • She sang *at the top of her voice*. • They were shouting *at the top of their lungs*.

blow your top see ¹BLOW

come out on top : to win a competition, argument, etc. • He's confident that he'll *come out on top* when all the votes have been counted.

from top to bottom : in a very thorough way • We cleaned/ searched the house *from top to bottom*.

from top to toe : from your head to your feet • They were covered *from top to toe* [= (more commonly) *from head to toe*] in mud.

off the top of your head informal : immediately by thinking quickly about something • *Off the top of my head*, I can think of three people who might be interested. • I can't remember her name *off the top of my head*.

on top **1** : on the highest part or surface of something • He gave us vanilla ice cream with chocolate sauce *on top*. • We finished decorating our Christmas tree by putting a star *on top*. • She picked the card *on top*. **2 chiefly Brit** : winning a game or competition • The team was *on top* [=in front, ahead] after the first half. — see also COME OUT ON TOP (above)

on top of **1** : on the highest or upper part of (something or someone) • The house sits *on top of* a hill. • Put the card back *on top of* the deck. • Books and papers were piled *on top of* each other. • I fell to the ground and the dog jumped *on top of* me. **2** : in control of (something) : doing the things that are needed to deal with (something) • You can count on them to be *on top of* things when problems develop. • "Can you get this done by next week?" "Don't worry. I'm *on top of* it." • She's not *on top of her game* this morning. [=she is not performing well this morning] **3** : aware of what is happening in (a particular area of activity) • She tries to keep/stay *on top of* current events. **4** : very close to or near (someone or something) • The deadline was *on top of* them before they knew it. • The houses are built right *on top of* each other. **5** : in addition to (something) • You owe me \$20, and that's *on top of* the \$40 you owe me from earlier. • *On top of* everything else, he lost his job. **6** ♠ In British English, if something *gets on top of you*, it becomes too difficult for you to handle or deal with. • Planning their wedding was starting to *get on top of them*.

on top of the world informal : in a very successful or happy state • I had just gotten married and felt like I was *on top of the world*.

over the top informal : beyond what is expected, usual, normal, or appropriate : very wild or strange often in an amusing way • His performances are always *over the top*. [= (Brit) OTT]

top of the tree Brit, informal : the most powerful or most successful position in a profession, organization, etc. • She is still (at/on the) *top of the tree* in her field. [=she's still at the top in her field]

— compare ³TOP; see also BIG TOP

²**top** *adj*, usually used before a noun

1 : located at the highest part or position • the *top* drawer/shelf • They live on the *top* floor of the building. • That's my husband in the *top* [=upper] right-hand corner of the picture.

2 : highest in rank, success, or importance • the *top* news story of the day • the country's *top* three car manufacturers • He is among the *top* pitchers of the league. • She is the *top* student in her class. = (chiefly Brit) She is *top* in her class. • Safety is our *top* concern/priority.

3 : highest in quality, amount, or degree • The winner showed *top* form. • Houses are selling at *top* prices. • What is the car's *top* speed?

³**top** *noun*, *pl* **tops** [count] : a child's toy that can be made to spin very quickly • spinning like a *top* — compare ¹TOP

⁴**top** *verb* **tops**; **topped**; **top-ping** [+ *obj*]

1 : to be or become more than (a particular amount) • Album sales have already *topped* [=exceeded] 500,000. • Donations are expected to *top* \$1,000,000 by the end of the month.

2 : to be in the highest position on (a list) because of success • The song has *topped* the charts for seven weeks. • Who *tops* the list this year for Hollywood's highest-paid actor? [=who is the highest-paid actor in Hollywood this year?]

3 : to do or be better than (someone or something) • He *topped* [=surpassed] his previous record. • They *topped* the other company's offer. • She *tops* everyone else on the team. • Being at the beach sure *tops* [=beats] working in the office. • I've seen some pretty weird things in my life—but that *tops* everything!

4 : to cover or form the top of (something) • A fresh layer of snow *topped* the mountains. — often + *with* • She *topped* the pizza *with* cheese and mushrooms. — often used as (*be*) *topped* • a cup of hot chocolate *topped* (off) *with* whip cream • The cathedral was *topped* (off/out) *with* a spire.

5 : to cut off the top of (something) • He *topped* the tree/carrots.

6 literary : to reach the top of (something) • When we *topped* the hill, we saw a small village in the valley.

top off [*phrasal verb*] **top off** (something) or **top** (something) *off* **1** : to end (something) usually in an exciting or impressive way • We *topped off* dinner with dessert and coffee. • The band *topped off* the show with an extended version of their classic hit. • The victory *tops off* the coach's extremely successful career. **2 US** : to fill (something) completely with a liquid • I added a little more coffee to *top off* the mug. • He stopped at the gas station to *top off* [= (Brit) *top up*] the car's tank. [=to fill the car's tank with gas]

top out [*phrasal verb*] : to reach the highest amount or level and stop increasing — often + *at* • Interest rates are expected to *top out at* 15 percent.

top up [*phrasal verb*] **top up** (something) or **top** (something) *up* **Brit** **1** : to fill (something) completely with a liquid • He *topped up* [= (US) *topped off*] (the glasses of) his guests. **2** : to bring (something) to the full or desired amount • The store keeps its fruits and vegetables *topped up*. • She works part-time to *top up* her income. — see also TOP-UP

top yourself Brit, informal : to kill yourself

to top it (all) off (US) or chiefly Brit to top it all — used to indicate a final thing that happened that was even better, worse, etc., than what happened before • The car was filthy when she returned it to me, and *to top it (all) off*, there was almost no gas left in the tank.

to-paz /'tɒp,peɪz/ *noun*, *pl* **-paz-es** [count, noncount] : a clear yellow to brownish-yellow stone that is used as a jewel — see color picture on page C11

top banana *noun*, *pl* ~ **-nanas** [count] *informal* : the most important or powerful person in a group or organization • He's the mob's *top banana*.

top brass *noun* [noncount] *informal* : BRASS 4 • Navy *top brass* met earlier today. — often used with *the* • The (company) *top brass* have/has decided that no action is necessary.

top-coat /'tɒ:p,kəʊt/ *noun*, *pl* **-coats** [count]

1 somewhat old-fashioned : a long coat the is worn in cold weather : OVERCOAT

2 : the last layer of paint that is put on a surface

top dog *noun*, *pl* ~ **dogs** [count] *informal* : a person or group that has the most power or success • the industry's *top dogs*

top dollar *noun* [noncount] : the highest amount of money that something costs or that someone earns — often + *for* • She paid *top dollar* for the tickets. [=she paid a lot of money for the tickets] • They charge/get *top dollar* for their services.

top-down /'tɒ:p'daʊn/ *adj*, always used before a noun

1 : controlled or directed from the highest levels • *top-down* management — opposite BOTTOM-UP

2 : starting with a general idea and having details gradually added • *top-down* programming/design

to-pee or to-pi /tə'pi:, Brit 'təʊ,pi:/ *noun*, *pl* **-pees or -pis** [count] : a hard, light hat that is worn in hot countries to protect your head from the sun

top-end /'tɒ:p'end/ *adj*, chiefly *Brit* : of the highest price and quality • *top-end* [= (US) *high-end*] homes/restaurants

top-flight /'tɒ:p'flaɪt/ *adj*, always used before a noun : of the highest quality : EXCELLENT • a *topflight* staff/performance

Top 40 *noun* [plural] : the forty best-selling music recordings for a particular period of time • She never had a song in the *Top 40*.

— **Top 40** *adj* • a *Top 40* record

top gear *noun* [noncount] *Brit*

1 : a vehicle's highest gear • She got to the highway and shifted into *top gear*. [= (US) *high gear*]

2 : a state of great or intense activity • The project is now in *top gear*. [= (US) *high gear*] • The party *hit top gear* when the guest of honour arrived.

top gun *noun*, *pl* ~ **guns** [count] *US, informal*

1 : a person who is the best at a particular activity • He's the team's *top gun*. • The company has its *top guns* handling the lawsuit.

2 : a powerful or important person

top hat *noun*, *pl* ~ **hats** [count] : a tall, usually black hat that is worn by men on very formal occasions • He wore a *top hat* and tails.

top-heavy /'tɒ:p,hevi/ *adj*

1 : likely to fall over because the top part is too large and heavy for the bottom part • a *top-heavy* truck

2 : having too many people whose job is to manage workers and not enough ordinary workers • a *top-heavy* corporation

topi *variant spelling of TOPEE*

to-pi-ary /'təʊpi,eri, Brit 'təʊpiəri/ *noun*, *pl* **-ar-ies**

1 [noncount] : plants (such as trees and bushes) that are cut or grown into decorative shapes • a *topiary* garden; also : the art of shaping plants in this way

2 [count] : a plant that is cut or grown into a decorative shape • a garden featuring *topiaries* and fountains

top·ic /'tɑ:pɪk/ *noun*, *pl* -ics [count] : someone or something that people talk or write about : SUBJECT • He is comfortable discussing a wide range of *topics*. • a popular/hot *topic* • *topics* such as health and fitness — often + *of* • What is the *topic of your speech*? • a book on the *topic of language* • a *topic of debate/discussion* • The new boss has been the main *topic of conversation*. — see also SUBTOPIC

top·i·cal /'tɑ:pɪkəl/ *adj*

1 [more ~; most ~] : relating to current news or events : dealing with things that are important, popular, etc., right now • *topical* issues/themes • a *topical* reference • *topical* humor

2 *medical* : made to be put on the skin • *topical* lotions/creams • a *topical* drug/treatment

— **top·i·cal·ly** /'tɑ:pɪkli/ *adv* • Apply the medicine *topically*.

— **top·i·cal·i·ty** /,tɑ:pə'kæləti/ *noun* [noncount] • the *topicality* of his humor

top·less /'tɑ:pləs/ *adj*

1 *of a woman* : wearing no clothing on the upper body • *topless* dancers • She likes to *go topless* on the beach.

2 : done while not wearing any clothing on the upper body • *topless* sunbathing

3 : having or allowing topless women • a *topless* beach • *topless* bars [=bars with topless waitresses, dancers, etc.]

— **topless** *adv* • pose/dance/sunbathe *topless*

top·level *adj*, *always used before a noun*

1 : highest in level, position, or rank • *top-level* executives

2 : involving people of the highest level, position, or rank • a *top-level* competition/meeting

top·most /'tɑ:p,məʊst/ *adj*, *always used before a noun*

: highest in position or importance • He was standing on the *topmost* step. • the country's *topmost* leaders

top·notch /'tɑ:p'nɒ:tʃ/ *adj*, *informal* : of the best quality •

The hotel offers *top-notch* service. • Their food is *top-notch*. [=excellent]

top·of·the·line (US) or *Brit* **top·of·the·range** *adj* : of the best quality • *top-of-the-line* cameras

to·pog·ra·phy /tə'pɑ:grəfi/ *noun* [noncount] *technical*

1 : the art or science of making maps that show the height, shape, etc., of the land in a particular area

2 : the features (such as mountains and rivers) in an area of land — often + *of* • The map shows the *topography of the island*.

— **to·pog·ra·pher** /tə'pɑ:grəfə/ *noun*, *pl* -phers [count]

— **to·po·graph·ic** /,tɑ:pə'græfɪk/ or **to·po·graph·i·cal** /,tɑ:pə'græfɪkəl/ *adj* • a *topographic* map — **to·po·graph·i·cal·ly** /,tɑ:pə'græfɪkli/ *adv* • *topographically* similar areas

top·per /'tɑ:pə/ *noun*, *pl* -pers *informal*

1 [count] : something that is placed on top of something else • a Christmas tree *topper* • (*chiefly* US) salad/ice-cream/pizza *toppers* [=toppings]

2 [count] : TOP HAT

3 [count] : something that is highest on a list • Their new song soon became a *chart topper*.

4 *the topper* US : the thing that is better, worse, etc., than everything before it • The whole day was bad, but the *topper* came when our car broke down.

top·ping /'tɑ:pɪŋ/ *noun*, *pl* -pings : a food that is added to the top of another food [count] What *toppings* do you want on the pizza? [noncount] an ice-cream sundae with whipped-cream *topping*

top·ple /'tɑ:pəl/ *verb* **top·ples**; **top·pled**; **top·pling**

1 : to cause (something) to become unsteady and fall [+ *obj*] The strong winds *toppled* many trees. • The earthquake *toppled* the buildings. [no *obj*] The tree *toppled* into the river. — often + *over* • The pile of books *toppled over*.

2 [+ *obj*] **a** : to remove (a government or a leader) from power : OVERTHROW • The rebels tried to *topple* the dictator. **b** US : to win a victory over (someone or something) in a war, contest, etc. • The team was *toppled* [=beaten, defeated] in the first round. • The phone company has *toppled* its local competition.

top·ranking *adj*, *always used before a noun* : having the highest rank : most important, powerful, or successful • *top-ranking* officials/students • It's one of the *top-ranking* schools in the country.

1 **tops** /'tɑ:ps/ *adj*, *not used before a noun*, *informal* : highest in

quality, ability, popularity, or importance • He is *tops* in his field. • You're *tops* in my book!

2 **tops** *adv*, *informal* : at the very most • It should only cost \$50, *tops*. [=the most it should cost is \$50] • It takes me 15 minutes *tops* to do the dishes.

top secret *adj* : kept completely secret by high government officials • *top secret* weapons/documents • The mission is *top secret*.

top·shelf /'tɑ:p'ʃelf/ *adj* : of the best quality • *top-shelf* liquors • a *top-shelf* player

top·side /'tɑ:p'saɪd/ *adv* : on or onto the deck of a ship • Let's *go topside*.

top·soil /'tɑ:p'sɔɪl/ *noun* [noncount] : the upper layer of soil in which plants have most of their roots • rich, well-fertilized *topsoil*

top·spin /'tɑ:p'spɪn/ *noun* [noncount] : a forward spinning motion of a ball • (*tennis*) She puts a lot of *topspin* on her serves to make them harder to return.

top·sy·tur·vy /,tɑ:psi'tʊvi/ *adv* : in or into great disorder or confusion • Her life was *turned topsy-turvy* when her husband left her.

— **topsy-turvy** *adj* • this *topsy-turvy* world we live in

top·up /'tɑ:p,ʌp/ *noun*, *pl* -ups [count] *Brit*

1 : an amount of liquid that is added to make something full

2 : a payment that is made to bring an amount of money to a certain level • He got a *top-up* on his pension.

tor /'tɔ:/ *noun*, *pl* **tors** [count] *chiefly* *Brit* : a high, rocky hill

To·rah /'tɔ:rə/ *noun*

the Torah **1** : the wisdom and law contained in Jewish sacred writings and oral tradition **2** : the first five books of the Jewish Bible that are used in a synagogue for religious services — compare TALMUD

1 **torch** /'tɔ:tʃ/ *noun*, *pl* **torch-es** [count]

1 : a long stick with material at one end that burns brightly • the Olympic *torch* — often used figuratively • the *torch of truth/hope*

2 : BLOWTORCH

3 *Brit* : FLASHLIGHT

carry a torch : to continue to have romantic feelings for someone who does not love you — usually + *for* • Is she still *carrying a torch* for him after all this time?

carry the torch : to support or promote a cause in an enthusiastic way • His children continue to *carry the torch* [=crusade] for justice.

pass the torch *chiefly* US ✧ If you *pass the torch (on)* or *pass on the torch*, you give your job, duties, etc., to another person. • He is retiring and *passing the torch on* to his successor. • She says she's ready to *pass the torch*.

2 **torch** *verb* **torches**; **torched**; **torch-ing** [+ *obj*] : to set fire to (something, such as a building) deliberately : to cause (something) to burn • An arsonist *torched* the building.

torch·bear·er /'tɔ:tʃ,berə/ *noun*, *pl* -ers [count]

1 : someone who carries a torch at the head of a group of people

2 : someone who leads a campaign, movement, etc. • He became the *torchbearer* for civil rights.

torch·light /'tɔ:tʃ,laɪt/ *noun* [noncount]

1 : the light from a burning torch • The men worked by *torchlight*. • a *torchlight* parade/procession

2 *Brit* : the light from a flashlight

torch singer *noun*, *pl* ~ -ers [count] : a singer of torch songs

torch song *noun*, *pl* ~ songs [count] : a very sad or sentimental song about love and romance

tore *past tense of* ¹TEAR

to·re·a·dor /'tɔ:riə,dɔ:/ *noun*, *pl* -dors [count] : someone who fights bulls in a bullfight : BULLFIGHTER

to·re·ro /tə'rerou/ *noun*, *pl* -ros [count] : TOREADOR

1 **tor·ment** /'tɔ:ment/ *noun*, *pl* -ments

1 [noncount] : extreme physical or mental pain • She lived in *torment* [=anguish] for the rest of her life. • No one could understand his inner *torment*. • After years of *torment*, she left her husband.

2 [count] : something that causes extreme physical or mental pain • The mosquitoes were a constant *torment*.

2 **tor·ment** /tɔ:'ment/ *verb* -ments; -ment-ed; -ment-ing

[+ *obj*] : to cause (someone or something) to feel extreme physical or mental pain • Flies *tormented* the cattle. • Not knowing where she was *tormented* him. • Stop *tormenting* [=annoying, teasing] your sister! — often used as (be) *tor-*

mented by • He was *tormented* by thoughts of death. • She was *tormented* by her classmates.

– **tor·men·tor** /toə'mentə/ *noun*, *pl* **-tors** [count] • She tried to avoid her *tormentors*.

torn *past participle of* ¹TEAR

tor·na·do /toə'neɪdɒ/ *noun*, *pl* **-does or -dos** [count] : a violent and destructive storm in which powerful winds move around a central point • in the path of a *tornado* • a *tornado* warning

¹**tor·pe·do** /toə'pi:dɒ/ *noun*, *pl* **-does** [count] : a bomb that is shaped like a tube and that is fired underwater • The battleship was sunk by a *torpedo* fired by a submarine.

²**torpedo** *verb* **-does; -doed; -doing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to hit or sink (a ship) with a torpedo • The submarine *torpedoed* the battleship.

2 *somewhat informal* : to destroy or stop (something) completely • Her injury *torpedoed* her goal of competing in the Olympics. • He *torpedoed* the plan.

tor·pid /'tɒpɪd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *formal* : having or showing very little energy or movement : not active • In winter, the frogs go into a *torpid* state. = The frogs become *torpid*. • a *torpid* economy

tor·por /'tɒpə/ *noun* [singular] *formal* : a state of not being active and having very little energy • The news aroused him from his *torpor*. • fall/sink into (a state of) *torpor*

torque /'tɔ:k/ *noun* [noncount] *technical* : a force that causes something to rotate • An automobile engine delivers *torque* to the driveshaft.

tor·rent /'tɒrənt/ *noun*, *pl* **-rents** [count]

1 : a large amount of water that moves very quickly in one direction • The storm turned the stream into a raging *torrent*. • *torrents* of rain • The rain came down *in torrents*.

2 : a large amount of something that is released suddenly — usually + *of* • He responded with a *torrent* of criticism/abuse. • The company receives *torrents* of e-mail every day.

tor·ren·tial /tə'renʃəl/ *adj*, *always used before a noun* : coming in a large, fast stream • *torrential* rains • a *torrential* downpour • The rain caused *torrential* flooding.

tor·rid /'tɒrɪd/ *adj*

1 : very hot and usually dry • a *torrid* summer • *torrid* weather

2 : showing or expressing very strong feelings especially of sexual or romantic desire • a *torrid* [=passionate] love affair

3 *Brit* : very difficult, uncomfortable, or unpleasant • The team had a *torrid* time trying to score.

tor·sion /'tɔ:ʃən/ *noun* [noncount] *technical* : the twisting of something (such as a piece of metal)

tor·so /'tɔ:sou/ *noun*, *pl* **-sos** [count] : the main part of the human body not including the head, arms, and legs : TRUNK • exercises that strengthen the/your *torso*

tort /'tɔ:t/ *noun*, *pl* **torts** [count] *law* : an action that wrongly causes harm to someone but that is not a crime and that is dealt with in a civil court

torte /'tɔ:t/ *noun*, *pl* **tortes** [count] : a type of cake that is made with many eggs and often nuts • a chocolate *torte*

tor·tel·li·ni /,tɔ:tə'li:ni/ *noun*, *pl* **tortellini** *also* **tor·tel·li·nis** [count] : pasta in the form of small, ring-shaped cases containing meat, cheese, etc. — see picture at PASTA

tor·ti·lla /tɔ:'ti:jə/ *noun*, *pl* **-llas** [count] : a round, thin Mexican bread that is usually eaten hot with a filling of meat, cheese, etc.

tortilla chip *noun*, *pl* ~ **chips** [count] : a thin, hard piece of food (called a chip) that is made from corn and usually salted • We had salsa and *tortilla chips* as an appetizer.

tor·toise /'tɔ:təs/ *noun*, *pl* **-tols-es** [count] : a kind of turtle that lives on land

tor·toise·shell /'tɔ:tə,ʃɛl/ *noun*, *pl* **-shells**

1 [count, noncount] : the usually brown and yellow shell of a turtle that is used to make decorations

2 [count] : a cat with yellow, orange, white, and black fur

3 [count] : a usually brown and orange butterfly

– **tortoiseshell** *adj* • *tortoiseshell* glasses • a *tortoiseshell* comb • a *tortoiseshell* cat/butterfly

tor·tu·ous /'tɔ:tʃəwəs/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : having many twists and turns • a *tortuous* path/route up the mountain

2 : complicated, long, and confusing • a *tortuous* argument/explanation

– **tor·tu·ous·ly** *adv* • The road winds *tortuously* up the mountain.

¹**tor·ture** /'tɔ:tʃə/ *noun* [noncount]

1 : the act of causing severe physical pain as a form of punishment or as a way to force someone to do or say something • the *torture* of prisoners • a *torture* chamber/device

2 : something that causes mental or physical suffering : a very painful or unpleasant experience • Waiting is just *torture* for me. • Listening to him can be *torture*.

²**torture** *verb* **-tures; -tured; -turing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to cause (someone) to experience severe physical pain especially as a form of punishment or to force that person to do or say something • The report revealed that prisoners had been repeatedly *tortured*.

2 : to cause (someone) to feel very worried, unhappy, etc. • Don't *torture* yourself over the mistake.

– **tor·tur·er** /'tɔ:tʃərə/ *noun*, *pl* **-ers** [count]

tor·tur·ous /'tɔ:tʃərəs/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : causing great pain or suffering • *torturous* hardships • a *torturous* workout

– **tor·tur·ous·ly** *adv*

To·ry /'tɔ:ri/ *noun*, *pl* **-ries** [count] *informal* : a member of the British Conservative Party • He's a *Tory*.

– **Tory** *adj* • the *Tory* Party

tosh /'tɔ:ʃ/ *noun* [noncount] *Brit, informal* : NONSENSE • What a lot/load of *tosh*.

¹**toss** /'tɔ:s/ *verb* **toss-es; tossed; tossing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to throw (something) with a quick, light motion • I *tossed* the ball to him. = I *tossed* him the ball. • She *tossed* the ball high in/into the air. • She *tossed* the paper at/into the recycling bin. • He *tossed* his dirty socks onto the floor.

2 [+ *obj*] : to move or lift (something, such as a part of your body) quickly or suddenly • He *tossed* his head back. • She *tossed* her hair and smiled.

3 : to move (something) back and forth or up and down [+ *obj*] Waves *tossed* the ship about. [no *obj*] The ship *tossed* on the waves.

4 [+ *obj*] : to stir or mix (something) lightly • Gently *toss* the salad. • *Toss* the vegetables with olive oil.

5 : to cause (something) to turn over by throwing it into the air [+ *obj*] *toss* a coin • *toss* [=flip] a pancake [no *obj*] "Who's going to put out the trash?" "Let's *toss* for it." [=let's toss a coin to decide]

toss and turn : to move about and turn over in bed because you are unable to sleep • She was *tossing and turning* all night.

toss back [*phrasal verb*] **toss back (something) or toss (something) back** *informal* : to drink (something) quickly • He *tossed back* a shot of whiskey.

toss in [*phrasal verb*] **toss in (something) or toss (something) in** : to add (something) to what you are selling without asking for more money • I'll even *toss in* [=throw in] an upgrade for free.

toss off [*phrasal verb*] 1 **toss (something) off or toss off (something)** *informal* a : to produce (something) quickly and without much effort • He *tossed off* a few lines of poetry. b : to drink (something) quickly • He *tossed off* a shot of whiskey. 2 **toss (someone) off** *Brit, informal + impolite* : MASTURBATE

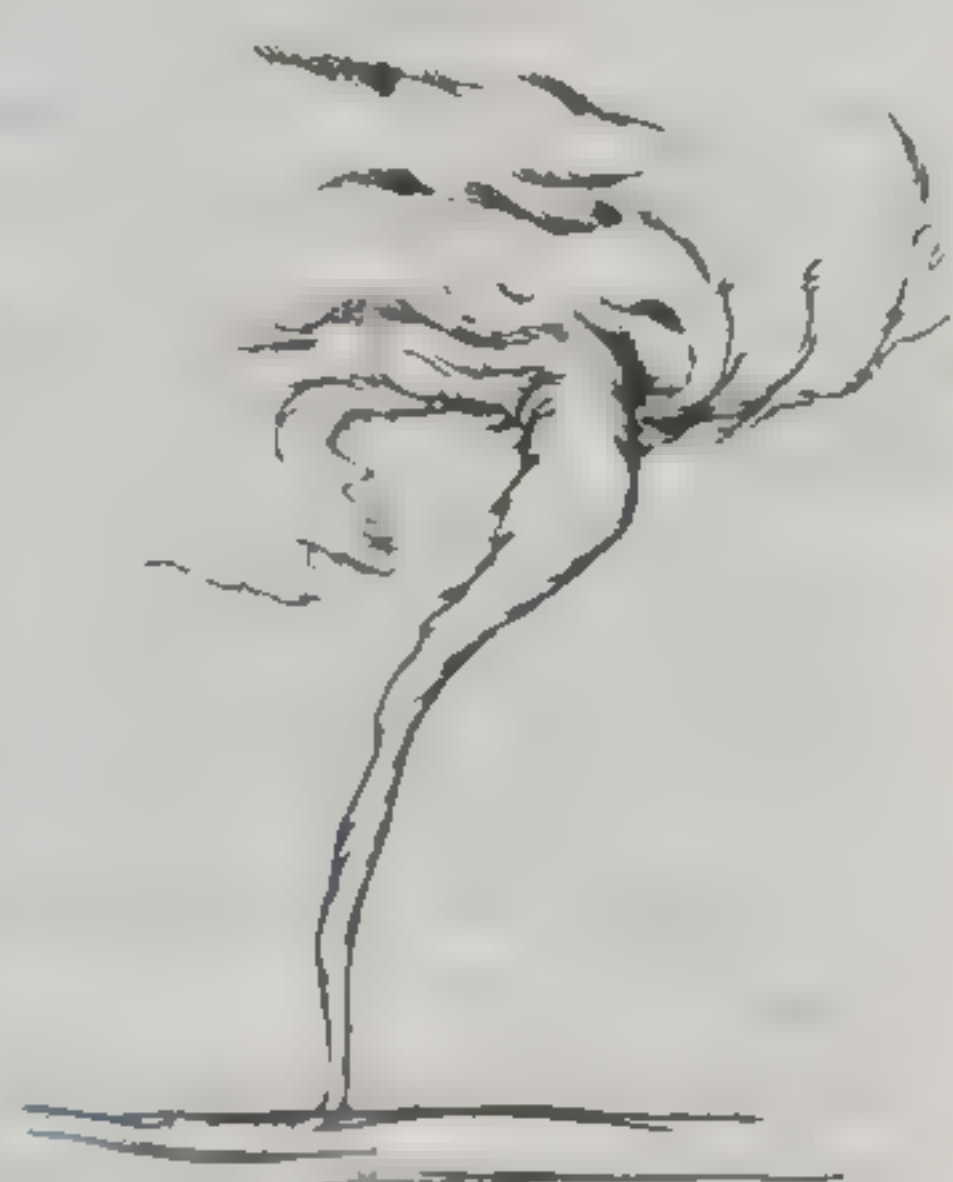
toss out [*phrasal verb*] **US** 1 **toss (something) out or toss out (something)** a : to put (something that is no longer useful or wanted) in a trash can, garbage can, etc. : to throw (something) out • It's time to *toss out* those bananas. • Did you *toss* the newspapers *out* already? b : to refuse to accept or consider (something) • His testimony was *tossed out* by the judge. c : to mention (something) as a possible thing to be done, thought about, etc. : SUGGEST • She *tossed out* a couple of ideas for improving the company's Web site. 2 **toss (someone) out or toss out (someone)** : to force (someone) to leave a place • They *tossed* him *out* [=threw him out] of the bar after he started a fight.

toss your hat in/into the ring see HAT

²**toss** *noun*, *pl* **tosses** [count]

1 : the act of throwing or tossing something with a quick, light motion • a bouquet *toss* • He gave the salad a quick *toss*. [=he tossed the salad] — see also RING TOSS

2 : the act of throwing a coin up into the air in order to make a decision about something based on which side of the coin is shown after it lands • They decided what to do by a



tornado

coin *toss*. • the *toss* of a coin • She won the *toss*.

3 : the act of moving your head suddenly upward and backward • She threw her hair back with a *toss* of her head.

argue the toss chiefly *Brit, informal* : to argue or disagree about something that is not important, that cannot be changed, etc.

not give a toss *Brit, informal* : to not care at all about something • He *doesn't give a toss* about our problems.

toss-er /'tɔ:sə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count] *Brit slang* : a stupid or unpleasant person

toss-up /'tɔ:s,ʌp/ *noun* [singular] : a situation in which there is no clear right choice or in which what will happen is not known • The election is a *toss-up*.

¹tot /'tɔ:t/ *noun, pl tots* [count]

1 *informal* : a young child • cute little *tots*

2 *Brit* : a small amount of a strong alcoholic drink • a *tot* of rum

²tot *verb* *tots; tot-ted; tot-ting*

tot up [phrasal verb] *tot (something) up or tot up (something)* *Brit, informal* : to add numbers together to find out the total • He *totted up* [=totalled] the bill.

¹to-tal /'təʊtəl/ *adj*

1 : complete or absolute • *total* [=utter, sheer] chaos/destruction/ruin • *total* darkness/freedom • It's a *total* loss. • a *total* lack of support/sympathy/understanding • a *total* eclipse of the sun • He demanded *total* control of/over the project. • a *total* stranger

2 : after everything or everyone is counted • What was the *total* amount of the bill? • the *total* annual budget/cost/sales • the *total* number of words • The country has a *total* population of about 100 million.

²total *noun, pl -tals* [count] : the number or amount of everything counted : SUM • The *total* is 64. • a *total* of 25 square miles — see also GRAND TOTAL, SUBTOTAL, SUM TOTAL

³total *verb -tals; US -taled or Brit -talled; US -tal-ing or Brit -tal-ling* [+ *obj*]

1 **a** : to produce (a total) when added together • Donations *totalled* \$120. **b** : to add numbers together to find out the total • He carefully *totalled* the bill. — often + *up* • He *totalled up* the bill.

2 *US* : to damage (something, such as a car) so badly that it is not worth repairing • He *totalled* the car.

to-tal-i-tar-i-an /təʊ,tælə'terijən/ *adj* : controlling the people of a country in a very strict way with complete power that cannot be opposed • a *totalitarian* regime/state

— **to-tal-i-tar-i-an-ism** /təʊ,tælə'terijən,ɪzəm/ *noun* [non-count]

to-tal-i-ty /təʊ'tæləti/ *noun* [noncount] : the whole or entire amount of something • the *totality* of human knowledge *in its/their totality* : with nothing left out • The exhibit must be viewed *in its totality* to be properly understood.

to-tal-ly /'təʊtli/ *adv* : completely or entirely • I'm *totally* against it. • He was *totally* naked. • *totally* committed/free/surprised • That's a *totally* different issue. • He's *totally* in control. • a *totally* new method

tote /'təʊt/ *verb* *totes; tot-ed; tot-ing* [+ *obj*] : to carry (something) • She's been *toting* that bag all day. • a *book-toting* professor — often + *around* • He's always *toting* tools *around*.

— **tot-er** /'təʊtə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count] • *gun-toters*

tote bag *noun, pl ~ bags* [count] : a large bag used for carrying things — see picture at BAG

tote board /'təʊt,bɔəd/ *noun, pl ~ boards* [count] *US* : a large, electrically operated board at a racetrack that shows the odds for a race, the results of a race, etc.

to-tem /'təʊtəm/ *noun, pl -tems* [count]

1 **a** : something (such as an animal or plant) that is the symbol for a family, tribe, etc., especially among Native Americans **b** : a usually carved or painted figure that represents such a symbol

2 : a person or thing that represents an idea • Private jets are a *totem* of success among extremely wealthy people.

— **to-tem-ic** /təʊ'temɪk/ *adj* • *totemic* images

totem pole *noun, pl ~ poles* [count]

1 : a tall usually wooden pole that is carved and painted with symbols, figures, or masks which represent different Native American tribes

2 *US, informal* — used to describe someone's position or level in a company or organization • She's rather low on the company's *totem pole*. [=she does not have an important position in the company] • He knows that he is (the) *low man on the totem pole*. [=he has the lowest rank; he is the least

important/powerful person]

tot-ter /'tɔ:tə/ *verb -ters; -tered; -ter-ing* [no *obj*]

1 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to move or walk in a slow and unsteady way • The child *tottered* across the room. • He *tottered* away/off to bed.

2 : to become weak and likely to fail or collapse • The economy is *tottering*. • a *tottering* company

tou-can /'tu:,kæn/ *noun, pl -cans* [count] : a tropical American bird that has bright feathers and a very large beak

¹touch /'tʌʃ/ *verb* *touch-es; touched; touch-ing*

1 : to put your hand, fingers, etc., on someone or something [+ *obj*] Please do not *touch* the statue. • Slowly bend forward and try to *touch* your toes. • Stop *touching* your sister. • He tried to *touch* the snake with a stick. [no *obj*] — usually used in negative statements • You can look (at the statue) but don't *touch*!

2 : to be in contact with (something) — used to say that one thing is directly against another thing with no space between [+ *obj*] The top of the Christmas tree almost *touches* the ceiling. • Sparks flew when the wires *touched* each other. [no *obj*] They were standing side-by-side with their shoulders *touching*. • Sparks flew when the wires *touched*.

3 [+ *obj*] **a** : to change or move (something) — usually used in negative statements • Don't *touch* anything before the police come. • Your things haven't been *touched* while you were away. • This room hasn't been *touched* in 20 years. **b** : to harm (someone or something) • Their house burned to the ground, but the house next door wasn't *touched* by the fire. • I won't let anyone *touch* you. = I won't let anyone *touch a hair on your head*

4 [+ *obj*] **a** : to deal with or work on (something) • I haven't *touched* my essay all week, and it's due this Friday! **b** : to become involved with (someone or something) • He's a good player, but since he failed the drug test, no team will *touch* him. • Everything she *touches* turns to gold. [=everything she is involved with becomes successful]

5 [+ *obj*] : to use (something) — usually used in negative statements • She never *touches* [=drinks] alcohol. • The dog hasn't *touched* [=eaten] its food. • We haven't *touched* the money in our savings account. • Alcohol? I never *touch the stuff*.

6 [+ *obj*] **a** : to affect or involve (someone) • Air pollution is a matter that *touches* [=concerns] everyone. **b** : to affect the feelings of (someone) : to cause (someone) to feel an emotion (such as sympathy or gratitude) • His neighbors' acts of kindness *touched* him deeply. • She wants to *touch* her audience through her music. • The story seemed to *touch the hearts* of the students. — see also TOUCHING

7 [+ *obj*] : to influence (something) • As a teacher, she *touched the lives* of many young people.

8 [+ *obj*] : to be as good as (someone or something) — usually used in negative statements • No one can *touch* her when it comes to songwriting. [=she is much better than everyone else as a songwriter] • You can't *touch* her songwriting ability.

9 [+ *obj*] chiefly *Brit* : to reach (a particular level or amount) • The temperature outside was *touching* 38 degrees Celsius.

10 [+ *obj*] *baseball* : to get a hit off or score a run against (a pitcher) — usually + *for* • He was *touched for* a run in the first inning. [=they scored a run off him in the first inning]

11 [+ *obj*] *literary* : to appear on (something) • A smile *touched* her lips. [=she smiled slightly]

not touch (someone or something) with a ten-foot pole (*US*) or *Brit not touch (someone or something) with a bargepole informal* : to refuse to go near or become involved with (someone or something) • That investment is too risky. I wouldn't *touch it with a ten-foot pole*.

touch a chord see ²CHORD

touch all the bases or touch every base see ¹BASE

touch a nerve see NERVE

touch base see ¹BASE

touch down [phrasal verb] **1** : to return to the ground or another surface after a flight : LAND • The plane *touched down* at 3:15. **2** *touch (the ball) down or touch down (the ball) rugby* : to score by putting (the ball) on the ground behind an opponent's goal line • He *touched the ball down* under the posts. — see also TOUCHDOWN

touch for [phrasal verb] *touch (someone) for (something) informal Brit* : to persuade (someone) to give or lend you (an amount of money) • He *touched me for* a tenner. — see also ¹TOUCH 10 (above)

touch off [phrasal verb] *touch off (something) or touch (something) off* : to cause (something) to start suddenly •

What *touched off* the fire? • The judge's verdict *touched off* riots throughout the city.

touch on/upon [phrasal verb] **touch on/upon (something)** 1 : to briefly talk or write about (something) : to mention (something) briefly • The reports *touched on* many important points. • She *touches upon* the issue in the article but never fully explains it. 2 : to come close to (something) : to almost be (something) • Your actions *touch on* [=verge on] treason.

touch up [phrasal verb] 1 **touch up (something) or touch (something) up** : to improve (something) by making small changes or additions • She *touched up* the photographs on the computer. 2 **touch (someone) up or touch up (someone)** Brit, informal : to touch (someone) in a sexual way • He tried to *touch her up* [=feel her up] at the party.

touch wood see ¹WOOD

touch your forelock see FORELOCK

²**touch** noun, pl touches

1 [count] : the act of touching someone or something — usually singular • He felt a gentle *touch* on his shoulder. • Fax machines allow you to send a document with/at the *touch* [=push] of a button. [=by touching/pushing a button]

2 [noncount] : the ability to be aware of something physical by touching it : the sense that allows you to feel physical things • Blind since birth, she relies on her sense of *touch* to read braille. • Sand the wood until it is smooth *to the touch*. [=until it feels smooth when you touch it] • The plate was hot *to the touch*.

3 [singular] : the quality of a thing that is experienced by feeling or touching it • the smooth *touch* [=feel] of silk

4 [count] : a small detail that is added to improve or complete something — usually + *to* • He added the final *touches* to the letter and mailed it. • The candles and light jazz music added a nice *touch* to their dinner together.

5 [singular] : a quality that can be seen in the way something is done • The painting showed the *touch* of a master. • Here at our hotel, we strive to provide service with a personal *touch*. • This room needs a *woman's/feminine touch*. [=it needs a woman to help decorate it] • He has a *magic touch* with animals. [=he is able to calm and control animals with unusual ease] — see also MIDAS TOUCH

6 [count] : an act of handling or controlling the ball in a sport (such as basketball, soccer, or American football) • That was her first *touch* of the game.

7 [noncount] : the area outside of the lines that mark the long edges of the playing area in soccer or rugby • The ball went into *touch*. • The ball was thrown in by a player standing in *touch*.

a touch : to a small extent : SLIGHTLY • She aimed *a touch* [=a bit, a little] too low and missed. • Can you turn up the radio *a touch* more?

a touch of : a small amount of (something) : a hint or trace of (something) • She noticed *a touch of* garlic in the sauce. • I think I have *a touch of* the flu.

finishing touch see ¹FINISH

in touch 1 : in a state in which people communicate with each other especially by calling or writing to each other • We kept/stayed *in touch* after college. — often + *with* • I'll be *in touch* with you [=I will call you, e-mail you, etc.] later this week. • I have been trying to get *in touch* with her all day. 2 **a** : the state of being aware of what is happening, how a particular group of people feels, etc. — usually + *with* • As a professor of biology, it is important to keep/stay *in touch* with the latest research. • She is *in touch* with the voters and their needs. **b** : the state of being aware of a particular part of your character that is not easily noticed — usually + *with* • He is *in touch* with his sensitive side. • She meditates to get *in touch* with her inner self.

lose touch 1 : to stop communicating with each other : to no longer know what is happening in each other's lives • They were friends in college, but then they moved to different cities and *lost touch*. — often + *with* • She *lost touch* with her college roommate after graduation. 2 : to stop knowing what is happening, how a particular group of people feels, etc. — usually + *with* • I read the newspaper every morning so that I don't completely *lose touch* with what's happening in the world. • She seems to have *lost touch* with reality [=she believes things that are not true] and thinks that she can have everything she wants.

lose your touch : to no longer have the ability to do things that you were able to do successfully in the past • His last album flopped; he seems to be *losing his touch*. • I must

have *lost my touch*; I can't get this camera to work any more.

out of touch 1 : not communicating with each other • I don't know if he still lives there. We've been *out of touch* for some time. 2 : in a state of not knowing what is happening, how a particular group of people feels, etc. • I've been away from the business for several years and feel quite *out of touch*. — usually + *with* • He is *out of touch* with the younger generation.

— see also COMMON TOUCH, SOFT TOUCH

touch and go adj, informal — used to describe a situation in which no one is sure what will happen and there is a chance that the result will be bad • It was *touch and go* there for a while, but the patient survived.

touch-back /'tʌtʃ,bæk/ noun, pl -backs [count] American football : a situation in which the ball is put out of play behind the goal line after a kick or interception ♦ After a touchback, the team with the ball begins play on its own 20-yard line.

touch-down /'tʌtʃ,daʊn/ noun, pl -downs

1 [count] American football : a score that is made by carrying the ball over the opponent's goal line or by catching the ball while standing in the end zone • He scored a *touchdown*. • The quarterback threw a *touchdown* (pass) to the wide receiver. • They won the game by a *touchdown*. [=by seven points] ♦ A touchdown is worth six points and is usually followed by a kick that is worth another point.

2 [count] rugby : the act of scoring points by putting the ball on the ground behind an opponent's goal line

3 [count, noncount] : the moment when an airplane or spacecraft touches the ground at the end of a flight • What was the plane's speed at *touchdown*?

— see also *touch down* at ¹TOUCH

tou·ché /tu'ʃeɪ/ interj — used to admit that someone has made a clever or effective point in an argument

touched /'tʌtʃt/ adj, not used before a noun

1 : having a small amount of something — usually + *with* • His hair was *touched* with gray.

2 [more ~; most ~] : having emotional feelings because you are grateful or pleased by what someone has done or said • She was *touched* that he had come only to see her. • We were very *touched* by their story.

3 informal + old-fashioned : slightly crazy • He's a bit *touched* (in the head).

touch football noun [noncount] : a form of American football in which the player with the ball is not tackled but instead must stop when touched by an opponent

touch-ing /'tʌtʃɪŋ/ adj [more ~; most ~] : having a strong emotional effect : causing feelings of sadness or sympathy • Their story was deeply/very *touching*. [=moving]

— **touch-ing-ly** adv

touch-line /'tʌtʃ,lain/ noun, pl -lines [count] : either one of the lines that mark the long sides of the playing field in rugby or soccer

touch pad noun, pl ~ pads [count] : a flat surface on an electronic device (such as a microwave oven) that is divided into several differently marked areas which you can touch to choose options • Press the start button on the *touch pad*.

touch screen noun, pl ~ screens [count] computers : a type of screen on a computer which shows options that you can choose by touching the screen

touch-stone /'tʌtʃ,stoun/ noun, pl -stones [count] : something that is used to make judgments about the quality of other things • Good service is one *touchstone* of a first-class restaurant.

touch-tone /'tʌtʃ'toun/ adj, always used before a noun : having numbered buttons that produce different sounds when they are pushed • a *touch-tone* phone

touch-type /'tʌtʃ,təɪp/ verb -types; -typed; -typ-ing [no obj] : to type without looking at the keyboard • The class taught him how to *touch-type*.

touchy /'tʌtʃi/ adj **touch-i-er; -est** [also more ~; most ~]

1 : easily hurt or upset by the things that people think or say about you : SENSITIVE • Don't be so *touchy*. I was just kidding. — often + *about* • He's a little *touchy* about his weight. [=he tends to get upset if you say anything about his weight]

2 : likely to cause people to become upset • a *touchy* subject

— **touch-i-ness** /'tʌtʃɪnəs/ noun [noncount]

touchy-feely /,tʌtʃi'fi:li/ adj [more ~; most ~] informal + usually disapproving : very emotional and personal : tending to show emotions very openly • Some teachers get all *touchy-feely* with their students. • *touchy-feely* people

¹tough /ˈtʌf/ *adj* **tough·er; tough·est**

1 : very difficult to do or deal with • a *tough* [=hard] assignment/problem • *tough* choices • She had a *tough* time in college. • It's been a *tough* year for our family. = This year has been *tough on* [=hard on] our family. — often followed by *to* + *verb* • It was *tough to quit* smoking. • The problem was *tough to solve*.

2 a : physically and emotionally strong : able to do hard work, to deal with harsh conditions, etc. • *tough* soldiers • Are you *tough* enough for the job? **b** : physically strong and violent • *tough* criminals • He's been hanging around with a bunch of *tough* guys.

3 a : strong and not easily broken or damaged • *tough* fibers • The rug is made of *tough* material. **b** : difficult to cut or chew • *tough* meat

4 : very strict • a *tough* law/policy • He's a *tough* boss/teacher, but fair. • The candidates both vow to *get tough on* crime. [=to deal harshly with criminals]

5 : having a lot of crime or danger • a *tough* neighborhood

6 : hard to influence or persuade • She's a *tough* bargainer/negotiator.

7 informal : unfortunate in a way that seems unfair • It's *tough* that he lost that job. — often used in an ironic way to show that you do not feel sympathy for someone • “He failed the test.” “Well, that's *tough*. Maybe if he'd studied a little he would have passed.” • He failed the test? *Tough!* [=too bad] He should have studied more than he did. — see also *tough luck* at ¹LUCK

(as) *tough as nails* see ¹NAIL

(as) *tough as old boots* *Brit, informal* : very tough • This steak is *as tough as old boots*. • Don't worry about her—she's *as tough as old boots*.

a *tough act to follow* see FOLLOW

a *tough nut (to crack)* see NUT

a *tough row to hoe* see ¹ROW

hang *tough* see ¹HANG

— *tough·ly* *adv* — *tough·ness* *noun* [noncount]

²tough *verb* **toughs; toughed; tough·ing**

tough it out *informal* : to deal with a difficult situation by being determined and refusing to quit • She hated her job, but she *toughed it out* until she found a better one. • Can you *tough it out* until the end of the game?

³tough *noun, pl* **toughs** [count] *informal* + *old-fashioned* : a tough and violent person • a gang of *toughs***⁴tough** *adv* : in a way that shows that you are strong or tough • play *tough* • He talks *tough* but he's not really dangerous.**tough·en** /ˈtʌfən/ *verb* **-ens; -ened; -en·ing**

1 : to make (something) stricter or to become stricter [+ *obj*] The government is *toughening* antidrug laws. — often + *up* • The antidrug laws have been *toughened up* recently. [no *obj*] — usually + *up* • The antidrug laws have *toughened up* recently.

2 : to make (someone) physically or emotionally stronger or to become physically or emotionally stronger [+ *obj*] The experience *toughened* him. — often + *up* • The experience *toughened* him *up*. [no *obj*] — usually + *up* • You need to *toughen up* if you want to succeed in this business.

tough·ie /ˈtʌfi/ *noun, pl* **-ies** [count] *informal*

1 : a difficult problem or question • The last question on the test was a *toughie*.

2 : a tough person : a strong person who is not afraid • He thinks he's a real *toughie*.

tough love *noun* [noncount] : love or concern that is expressed in a strict way especially to make someone behave responsibly**tou·pee** /tuˈpeɪ/ *noun, pl* **-pees** [count] : a small wig that is worn by a man to cover a bald spot on his head**¹tour** /ˈtuə/ *noun, pl* **tour**s

1 [count] **a** : a journey through the different parts of a country, region, etc. • We went on a *tour* of Italy. • They went on a driving *tour* of New England. • a sightseeing *tour* • We hired a *tour guide*. [=a person who takes people on trips through an area and explains the interesting details about it] **b** : an activity in which you go through a place (such as a building or city) in order to see and learn about the different parts of it • They went on a *tour* of the city. • We were taken on a *tour* of/through the school. • We went on a guided *tour* of the museum. • They gave us a *tour* of their new house. • We made a *tour* of the garden. [=we walked around the garden] • a *tour of inspection* [=an activity in which someone goes through a place in order to see if things are in the proper condition] — see also GRAND TOUR

2 : a series of related performances, appearances, competitions, etc., that occur at different places over a period of time [count] a golf/book/concert *tour* [noncount] The band will be *on tour* [=traveling on a tour] for the next month.

3 [count] : a period of time during which someone (such as a soldier) is on duty or in a certain place • during his *tour* in Vietnam • He served a *tour of duty* in Germany.

²tour *verb* **tour**s; **toured**; **tour·ing**

1 : to make a journey or trip through an area or place : to make a tour of (something) [+ *obj*] We *toured* London. • We'll *tour* the museum tomorrow. [no *obj*] We *toured* around for several weeks last summer. • “Are you here to study?” “No, I'm just *touring*.”

2 : to travel from place to place to perform, give speeches, etc. [no *obj*] Is the band *touring* this year? [+ *obj*] The show has *toured* the country.

tour de force /ˌtuədəˈfoʊs/ *noun* [singular] : a very skillful and successful effort or performance • The book/film is a *tour de force*. • Her performance in the play was a real *tour de force*.**Tou·rette's syndrome** /tuˈrets-/ *noun* [noncount] *medical* : a disorder that causes someone to move and speak in an uncontrolled way**tour·ism** /ˈtuəˌɪzəm/ *noun* [noncount]

1 : the activity of traveling to a place for pleasure • The city developed the riverfront to encourage/promote *tourism*.

2 : the business of providing hotels, restaurants, entertainment, etc., for people who are traveling • the *tourism* industry • She has a job in *tourism*.

tour·ist /ˈtʊrɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [count]

1 : a person who travels to a place for pleasure • The museums attract a lot of *tourists*. • In the summer the town is filled with *tourists*.

2 Brit : a member of a sports team that is playing a series of official games in a foreign country • The *tourists* defeated the home side.

— *tourist* *adj, always used before a noun* • The museum is a big *tourist* attraction/destination. • She has a job in the *tourist* industry.

tourist class *noun* [noncount] : the cheapest seats on an airplane or the cheapest rooms on a ship or in a hotel • *Tourist class* is all we could afford.

— *tourist class* *adv* • We traveled *tourist class* on the ship.

tourist trap *noun, pl* ~ **traps** [count] *disapproving* : a place that attracts many tourists and that charges high prices • The street market is a *tourist trap* that mostly sells cheap souvenirs. • That hotel is just a *tourist trap*.**touristy** /ˈtʊrɪsti/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *informal* + *often disapproving* : attracting or appealing to tourists • *touristy* souvenirs • *touristy* activities/restaurants • When we travel we usually try to avoid the *touristy* areas. [=the areas where there are a lot of tourists]**tour·na·ment** /ˈtuənəmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments** [count]

1 : a sports competition or series of contests that involves many players or teams and that usually continues for at least several days • a basketball/golf *tournament* • She's an excellent tennis player who has won many *tournaments*.

2 : a contest of skill and courage between soldiers or knights in the Middle Ages

tour·ney /ˈtuəni/ *noun, pl* **-neys** [count] *chiefly US, informal* : TOURNAMENT 1 • a tennis *tourney***tour·ni·quet** /ˈtuənikət/ *noun, pl* **-quets** [count] : a bandage, strip of cloth, etc., that is tied tightly around an injured arm or leg to stop or slow the bleeding from a wound**tou·sle** /ˈtaʊzəl/ *verb* **tou·sles; tou·sled; tou·sling** [+ *obj*] : to make (someone's hair) untidy • She *tousled* the little boy's hair.**¹tout** /ˈtaʊt/ *verb* **touts; tout·ed; tout·ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to talk about (something or someone) as being very good, effective, skillful, etc. • The company is running advertisements *touting* the drug's effectiveness. • The company's stock is being *touted* by many financial advisers. • the college's much *touted* [=praised] women's studies program — often + *as* • The company is *touting* the drug as a miracle cure. • She is being *touted* [=promoted] as a likely candidate for the Senate.

2 Brit : to try to persuade people to buy your goods or services [no *obj*] — + *for* • They *touted for* business/customers everywhere but had few takers. [+ *obj*] vendors *touting* their wares

3 Brit : to buy tickets for an event and resell them at a much higher price : SCALP [+ *obj*] People were *touting* tickets out-

side the stadium. [no obj] People were *touting* outside the stadium.

²tout *noun, pl touts* [count]

1 *US* : a person who sells information about which horses are likely to win the races at a racetrack

2 *Brit* : a person who buys tickets for an event and resells them at a much higher price • ticket *touts* [= (US) scalpers]

¹tow /'təʊ/ *verb* **tows; towed; tow-ing** [+ obj] : to pull (a vehicle) behind another vehicle with a rope or chain • The car was *towed* to the nearest garage after the accident. • The police *towed* my car because it was parked illegally.

²tow *noun, pl tows* [count] : the act of pulling a vehicle behind another vehicle with a rope or chain — usually singular • He called for a *tow* to the nearest garage.

in tow 1 or **under tow** or *Brit on tow* — used to describe a situation in which one vehicle, boat, etc., is being pulled by another • a car with a boat *in tow* • The damaged ship was brought into the harbor *under tow*. ✧ If a ship or boat is *taken in tow*, it is tied to and pulled by another boat or ship. This phrase is often used figuratively. • The tourists were *taken in tow* by a friendly guide. 2 *informal* — used to describe a situation in which someone is going somewhere with another person or group • a woman with seven children *in tow*

to-ward /'təʊəd, 'təʊəd/ or **to-wards** /'təʊədʒ, 'təʊədʒ/ *prep*

1 **a** : in the direction of (something or someone) • The bus is heading *toward* town. • She took a step *toward* the door. • He leaned *towards* me. **b** — used to indicate the direction faced by something • Turn the chair *toward* the window. • The mirrors are pointed *toward* each other.

2 **a** : near (a particular place) • They live out *towards* the edge of town. **b** : not long before (a particular time) • It was (getting) *toward* noon when they arrived. • We're thinking of taking a vacation *towards* the end of the month.

3 : in a process that is intended to produce or achieve (something) • Efforts *toward* peace have been largely unsuccessful. • a step/trend *towards* democracy

4 : in regard to (something or someone) • He has a generally positive attitude *toward* [=about] life. • She's been very kind *towards* them. [=she has treated them very kindly]

5 : as part of the payment for (something) • We put \$100 *toward* a new sofa.

tow-away zone /'təʊə,weɪ-/ *noun, pl ~ zones* [count] *US* : an area where parking is not allowed and where a parked car will be towed

tow bar *noun, pl ~ bars* [count] : a metal bar on the back of a vehicle that is used for towing something (such as a vehicle or trailer)

¹tow-el /'təʊəl/ *noun, pl -els* [count] : a piece of cloth used for drying things • She dried her hair with a *towel*. • Here's a *towel* to wipe up the spill. — see also BEACH TOWEL, DISH TOWEL, HAND TOWEL, PAPER TOWEL

throw in the towel *informal* : to stop an activity or effort : to admit that you cannot do something and stop trying : QUIT • I *threw in the towel* a long time ago. • He couldn't seem to win, but he wasn't ready to *throw in the towel*.

²towel *verb -els; US -eled or Brit -elled; US -el-ing or Brit -el-ling* : to dry (something) with a towel [+ obj] He *toweled* (off) his hair. [no obj] — + off or down • She climbed out of the tub and quickly *toweled off*. [=dried herself with a towel]

tow-el-ling /'təʊəlɪŋ/ *noun* [noncount] *Brit* : TERRY CLOTH

towel rack *noun, pl ~ racks* [count] *US* : a bar on which a towel is hung in a bathroom — called also (US) *towel bar*, (chiefly *Brit*) *towel rail*; see picture at BATHROOM

¹tow-er /'təʊə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count]

1 : a tall, narrow building or structure that may stand apart from or be attached to another building or structure • a bell/clock/radio *tower* • the church *tower* • a cell phone *tower* — see also IVORY TOWER, WATCHTOWER, WATER TOWER

2 : a tall piece of furniture used to store something • a CD/DVD *tower*

3 *computers* : a personal computer that stands in an upright position — see picture at COMPUTER

tower of strength : an emotionally strong person who gives a lot of support or help during difficult times • She's been a/my *tower of strength* during my illness.

²tower *verb -ers; -ered; -er-ing*

tower above/over [phrasal verb] **tower over/above** (someone or something) 1 : to be much taller than (someone or something) • He *towers over* his sister. • The two skyscrapers *tower above* the other buildings of the city. 2 : to be much better or more important than (someone or some-

thing) • Her intellect *towers above/over* ours.

tower block *noun, pl ~ blocks* [count] *Brit* : a very tall building that contains apartments or offices

tow-er-ing /'təʊərɪŋ/ *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : very tall • *towering* mountain peaks • *towering* skyscrapers

2 : very powerful or intense • He flew into a *towering* rage.

3 : very great or impressive • a *towering* performance

tow-head /'təʊ,hed/ *noun, pl -heads* [count] *US, informal + old-fashioned* : a person with very light blond hair

— **tow-head-ed** /'təʊ,hedəd/ *adj* • a *towheaded* child

tow-line /'təʊ,lain/ *noun, pl -lines* [count] : a rope or chain used for towing vehicles

town /'taʊn/ *noun, pl towns*

1 [count] : a place where people live that is larger than a village but smaller than a city • a *town* in Georgia • a mining *town* • the *town* of Jackson, Florida • The nearest shopping mall is two *towns* away. • *town* officials — see also COUNTY TOWN, GHOST TOWN, SHANTYTOWN, TWIN TOWN

2 **a** [count] : the people in a town — usually singular • I think the entire *town* has heard the news by now. • The whole *town* was at the parade. **b the town** : the government of a town • The *town* plans to increase property taxes.

3 [noncount] : the business and shopping center of a town • We're heading to *town* later on. — see also DOWNTOWN, UPTOWN

4 : the town where someone lives [noncount] He left *town* when he was 16. • The circus is coming to *town*. • the *town* parade • This is the best restaurant *in town*. [=in this town] • Let's get together. I'll be *in town* next week. [=I'll be in your town next week] • She's from *out of town*. [=from a different town] [singular] My *town* has changed a lot over the years. — see also HOMETOWN

go to town *informal* : to do something in a very thorough and enthusiastic way • When they throw a party, they really *go to town*. [=they spend a lot of money and have a big party] — often + on • She really *went to town on* the decorations for the party.

hit the town *informal* : to spend time in the area of a city or town where there are a lot of restaurants, bars, etc. • We're planning to *hit the town* tomorrow.

(out) on the town *informal* : going to the restaurants, bars, etc., of a city or town for entertainment • We spent the night *out on the town*.

paint the town (red) see ²PAINT

the talk of the town see ²TALK

town centre *noun, pl ~ centres* [count] *Brit* : the main or central part of a town — compare CITY CENTRE, DOWNTOWN

town crier *noun, pl ~ -ers* [count] *old-fashioned* : an official who made public announcements in past times

town hall *noun, pl ~ halls* [count] : a town government's main building — usually singular

town house *noun, pl ~ houses* [count]

1 *US* : a house that has two or three levels and that is attached to a similar house by a shared wall

2 : a house in a city or town; *especially* : a house in a town or city owned by someone who also has a house in the country

town-ie /'taʊni/ *noun, pl -ies* [count] *informal*

1 : a person who lives in a town or city

2 *US* : a person who lives in a town that has a college or university but does not work at or attend the school • fights between *townies* and college kids

town meeting *noun, pl ~ -ings* [count] : a meeting of the people who live in a town to pass laws for the town or to discuss town problems, issues, etc.

town-scape /'taʊn,skeɪp/ *noun, pl -scapes*

1 [noncount] : the area where a town is and the way it looks

2 [count] : a picture that shows part or all of a town • historic *townscapes*

towns-folk /'taʊnz,fəʊk/ *noun* [plural] : the people who live in a town : TOWNSPEOPLE

town-ship /'taʊn,ʃɪp/ *noun, pl -ships* [count] : a unit of local government in the U.S.

towns-people /'taʊnz,pɪ:pəl/ *noun* [plural] : the people who live in a town or city

tow-path /'təʊ,pæθ, *Brit* 'təʊ,pæ:θ/ *noun, pl -paths* [count] *old-fashioned* : a path along a river or canal used by people or horses for towing boats

tow-rope *noun, pl -ropes* [count] : a rope or chain used for towing vehicles

tow truck *noun, pl ~ trucks* [count] : a truck with special

equipment on the back of it to tow away vehicles — called also (Brit) *breakdown truck*; see picture at TRUCK

tox·e·mia (US) or Brit **tox·ae·mia** /tak'si:mijə/ *noun* [non-count] *medical*

1 : PREECLAMPSIA

2 : an infection that is caused by harmful bacteria in the blood

tox·ic /'tɑ:ksɪk/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : containing poisonous substances : POISONOUS • a *toxic* substance/compound • The fumes from that chemical are highly *toxic*. • Tests will be run to determine if the landfill is *toxic*. — sometimes used figuratively • a *toxic* [=very unpleasant] work environment — see also TOXIC SHOCK SYNDROME, TOXIC WASTE

tox·ic·i·ty /tak'sisəti/ *noun*, *pl* -ties [count, noncount] *technical* : the state of being poisonous or the degree to which something (such as a drug) is poisonous • a pesticide with low *toxicity* to humans

tox·i·col·o·gy /,tɑ:ksə'kɑ:lədʒi/ *noun* [noncount] *technical* : the study of poisonous chemicals, drugs, etc., and how a person or other living thing reacts to them — often used before another noun • *Toxicology* reports indicate he died from a drug overdose.

— **tox·i·col·o·gist** /,tɑ:ksə'kɑ:lədʒɪst/ *noun*, *pl* -gists [count]

toxic shock syndrome *noun* [noncount] *medical* : a serious illness that is caused by bacteria and occurs especially in women who use tampons — abbr. TSS; called also *toxic shock*

toxic waste *noun*, *pl* ~ wastes : unwanted chemicals that are the result of manufacturing or industry and that are poisonous to living things [noncount] The company was fined for dumping *toxic waste* into the river. • *toxic waste* dumps/sites [count] *Toxic wastes* were detected in the soil samples.

tox·in /'tɑ:ksən/ *noun*, *pl* -ins [count] : a poisonous substance and especially one that is produced by a living thing • the *toxin* in scorpion venom • Scientists are studying how exposure to *environmental toxins* [=small amounts of poisons found in air, water, food, etc.] may affect our health.

¹**toy** /'tɔɪ/ *noun*, *pl* toys [count]

1 : something a child plays with • Please put away your *toys*. • a plastic/wooden/plush/stuffed *toy* — see also CHEW TOY, SOFT TOY, TINKERTOY

2 *sometimes disapproving* : something that an adult buys or uses for enjoyment or entertainment • He bought a new TV and a few other *toys*. • Her latest *toy* is a sports car.

3 : something that is very small • Your car is just a *toy* compared to this truck.

4 : a person who is controlled or used by someone else • She's just his *toy*. • (US) a *boy toy* = (Brit) a *toy boy* [=a young man who is having a romantic or sexual relationship with an older woman]

— **toy·like** /'tɔɪ,lʌɪk/ *adj* • a tiny *toylike* device

²**toy** *verb* toys; toyed; toy·ing

toy with [phrasal verb] 1 *toy with (something)* *a* : to think about (something) briefly and not very seriously • I *toyed with* the idea of moving to France but ended up staying here. *b* : to move or touch (something) with your fingers often without thinking • She *toyed* [=played] with her hair while she talked on the phone. 2 *toy with (someone or something)* : to deal with or control (someone or something) in a clever and usually unfair or selfish way • Don't *toy with* my emotions. • Do you really love me, or are you just *toying with* me?

³**toy** *adj*, always used before a noun

1 *a* : of, for, or relating to toys • a *toy* store • Put your toys back in the *toy box/chest*. *b* : of a kind that is meant for a child to play with • *toy* cars/trains • *toy* soldiers [=small figures shaped like soldiers]

2 — used to describe an animal (such as a dog) that is the smallest kind of a particular breed • a *toy* poodle

¹**trace** /'treɪs/ *noun*, *pl* trac·es [count]

1 : a very small amount of something • He could detect a *trace* [=hint] of cinnamon in the cookies. • She spoke without a *trace* of irony. — sometimes used before another noun • *Trace* amounts of the pesticide were found in many foods. — see also TRACE ELEMENT

2 : something (such as a mark or an object) which shows that someone or something was in a particular place • The scientists found *traces* of human activity in the area. • The thieves left no *trace* of evidence behind. • He disappeared/vanished *without a trace*. [=without leaving any signs to show where he went]

3 *technical* : a line drawn by a machine to record how something (such as a heartbeat or an earthquake) changes or happens over time

²**trace** *verb* traces; traced; trac·ing

1 [+ *obj*] *a* : to draw the outline of (something) • The children *traced* their hands onto the sidewalk with chalk.; *especially* : to copy (a design or picture) by putting a thin piece of paper that you can see through over it and drawing on top of it • You can put a piece of paper over the pattern and *trace* it. *b* : to draw (something, such as letters or a picture) especially in a careful way • She *traced* the letters of her name. • I *traced* a circle in the air/sand (with my finger). — often + *out* • She *traced* the letters *out* on a sheet of paper.

2 [+ *obj*] : to follow the path or line of (something) • We will need to *trace* the electrical wires through the walls. • She *traced* the edge of the book with her finger. [=she moved her finger along the edge of the book]

3 : to follow (something) back to its cause, beginning, or origin : to find out where something came from [+ *obj*] — usually + *to* • The noise was *traced to* a loose bolt in the car's engine. • The police *traced* the call *to* a payphone. — often + *back* • He can *trace* his family history all the way *back to* the Pilgrims. • The word “amiable” can be *traced back to* the Latin word for “friend.” [no *obj*] The word “amiable” *traces back to* the Latin word for “friend.” • a tradition that *traces back to* [=goes back to] the time of the ancient Romans

4 [+ *obj*] : to describe or study the way (something) happened over time • Her book *traces* the development of art through the ages.

5 [+ *obj*] : to try to find (someone or something) by collecting and studying evidence • The detective is in charge of *tracing* [= (more commonly) *tracking down*] missing persons.

— **trace·able** /'treɪsəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] • The word “amiable” is *traceable* to the Latin word for “friend.” • This phone call is *traceable*.

trace element *noun*, *pl* ~ -ments [count] *technical*

1 : a chemical element that is present only in very small amounts

2 : a chemical or element that a living thing needs in very small amounts in order to live

trac·er /'treɪsə/ *noun*, *pl* -ers [count]

1 : a type of bullet that shows its path by creating smoke or light as it moves through the air • The enemy fired *tracers* at the aircraft carrier. • *tracer* fire/rounds/bullets

2 *medical* : a substance that is put in a patient's body so that doctors can watch a biological process (such as digestion) or see how a condition (such as cancer) is progressing • They injected her with a radioactive *tracer* and tracked it via X-rays.

trac·ery /'treɪsəri/ *noun* [noncount]

1 : decorative patterns made in stone in some church windows • This window is an example of Gothic *tracery*.

2 : lines that cross each other in a complicated and attractive pattern • the delicate *tracery* of a butterfly's wing

tra·chea /'treɪkɪjə, Brit trə'ki:jə/ *noun*, *pl* -che·ae /-ki:ɪ/, Brit -'ki:ji/ or -che·as [count] *medical* : a long tube in your neck and chest that carries air into and out of your lungs — called also *windpipe*

— **tra·che·al** /'treɪkɪjəl/ *adj*

tra·che·o·to·my /,treɪki'ɑ:təmi/ *noun*, *pl* -mies [count] *medical* : an emergency operation in which a cut is made in the trachea so that a person can breathe

trac·ing /'treɪsɪŋ/ *noun*, *pl* -ings [count] : a copy of a picture, map, etc., that is made by tracing the original

tracing paper *noun*, *pl* ~ -pers [count, noncount] : a very thin kind of paper that you can see through and use to trace a design, picture, etc.

¹**track** /'træk/ *noun*, *pl* tracks

1 [count] : a mark left on the ground by a moving animal, person, or vehicle — usually plural • moose/tire *tracks* • Dinosaur *tracks* were found in the canyon.

2 [count] : a path or trail that is made by people or animals walking through a field, forest, etc. • Follow the *track* into the forest.

3 [count] *a* : a pair of metal bars that a train, trolley, or subway car rides along • The train went off the *track*. = The train jumped the *track*. — usually plural • We were walking beside the train/railroad *tracks*. *b* US : a set of tracks at a train or subway station • The train to Chicago will leave *track* 3.

4 [count] : an often circular path or road that is used for racing • She ran a few laps around the *track* before the race. • a dog/horse *track* [=a track where dog/horse races are held] — see also RACETRACK

5 [noncount] *US* : TRACK AND FIELD • He ran *track* in high school. — often used before another noun • a *track* star • our *track* team • a *track* event/meet — see also TRACKSUIT

6 [count] : a rod or bar that is used to hold something (such as a curtain or sliding door) — see also TRACK LIGHTING

7 [count] : the course along which someone or something moves or proceeds • the *track* of a storm/bullet • His brother and sister went to college, but he chose a different *track*. [=he chose to do something different] — see also FAST TRACK, INSIDE TRACK, TENURE-TRACK

8 [count] *US* : a course of study followed by students who have particular abilities, needs, and goals • students on the *college track* — called also (Brit) *stream*

9 [count] **a** : a song on a record, CD, etc. • *Tracks* 6 and 11 are particularly good. • The *title track* [=the song with the same title as the album] is a hit. — see also SOUNDTRACK **b** : a separate recording of each instrument or voice in a song • Increase the volume on the drum/vocal *track*. — see also LAUGH TRACK, SOUNDTRACK

cover your tracks : to hide anything that shows where you have been or what you have done so that no one can find or catch you • The culprits *covered their tracks* well and left little evidence at the crime scene.

in your tracks : ♦ If you stop or are stopped *in your tracks*, you stop doing something suddenly or immediately. • He stopped/froze *in his tracks*, turned, and came back. • Her comment *stopped me (dead) in my tracks*. [=it surprised me very much; it caused me to stop and think]

keep track : to be aware of how something is changing, what someone is doing, etc. • There's so much going on that it's hard to *keep track*. — usually + *of* • It's hard to *keep track of* what's going on. • *Keep track of* your little brother for me, will you? • It's her job to *keep track of* how the money is spent. • I watch the news to *keep track of* current events.

lose track : to stop being aware of how something is changing, what someone is doing, etc. • With so much going on, it's easy to *lose track*. — usually + *of* • It's easy to *lose track of* what's going on. • I'm sorry I'm late. I *lost track of* the time. • We *lost track of* each other after high school.

make tracks informal : to leave a place quickly • Here comes your mom—I'd better *make tracks*.

off the beaten track see BEATEN

off track : away from the main point, thought, etc. • Let's not get *off track*. • He kept the discussion from going too far *off track*.

on the right/wrong track : following a course that will lead to success/failure • Although their research is far from complete, the scientists are convinced that they are *on the right track*. • She believes that our current foreign policy is *on the wrong track*.

on track : happening the way that you expect or want things to happen : following a schedule, routine, etc. • Are we *on track* with the project? • The project is *on track*. • I had to get my life *back on track* after the accident.

the wrong side of the tracks : the part of a town, city, etc., where poor people live • She fell in love with a boy from *the wrong side of the tracks*.

— track-less /'trækləs/ *adj* • a *trackless* wilderness/desert/expanse

2 track *verb* tracks; tracked; track-ing

1 [+ *obj*] **a** : to follow and try to find (an animal) by looking for its tracks and other signs that show where it has gone • He *tracked* the deer for a mile. **b** : to follow and find (someone or something) especially by looking at evidence • The detectives *tracked* the killer to Arizona. — often + *down* • They *tracked him down* in Arizona. • Scientists *tracked down* the cause of the disease to a particular gene. • If I manage to *track down* [=find] those photos, I'll let you know.

2 [+ *obj*] **a** : to follow or watch the path of (something) • The ship can *track* incoming missiles with radar. • Meteorologists are *tracking* the storm. • an electronic *tracking* device/system **b** : to watch or follow the progress of (someone or something) • You should start *tracking* [=keeping track of] your living expenses. • The study *tracked* the patients over the course of five years.

3 [no *obj*] *US* : to move in a certain way or in a certain direction • The boat *tracks* well. • The squadron will *track* north by northeast for 40 miles.

4 [+ *obj*] *US* : to make marks by bringing (dirt, mud, etc.) indoors on the bottom of your feet • Don't you *track* mud into this clean kitchen! • The dog *tracked* dirt all over the floor.

5 *US* : to place young students in certain classes according

to their abilities and needs [no *obj*] This school does not *track*. [+ *obj*] The school *tracks* [= (Brit) *streams*] students into "remedial," "average," and "gifted" classes.

6 [no *obj*] of a movie camera or video camera : to move in a particular direction especially in a straight line • At the start of the movie, the camera *tracks* along the street to the house's front door.

— track-er *noun*, *pl* -ers [count] • He is a skilled animal *tracker*. • The automatic flight *tracker* will tell you when her plane will be landing.

track and field *noun* [noncount] *US* : a sport in which athletes participate in different running, jumping, and throwing contests (such as the hurdles, long jump, and shot put) — called also *track*, (Brit) *athletics*

— track-and-field /,trækən'fi:ld/ *adj* • She is on the *track-and-field* team. • *track-and-field* events

track-ball /'træk,bɔ:l/ *noun*, *pl* -balls [count] *computers* : a device which consists of a small ball that you roll with your fingers to control the movement of a pointer on a computer screen

track lighting *noun* [noncount] *US* : lights that are spaced along a bar or rod placed on a ceiling or wall • We installed some *track lighting* in the kitchen. — called also *track lights*; see picture at LIGHTING

track record *noun*, *pl* ~ -cords [count] : the things that someone or something has done or achieved in the past regarded especially as a way to judge what that person or thing is likely to do in the future • The Senator has a good *track record* on these issues. [=the Senator has dealt with these issues in a proper/effective way in the past] • These stocks have a *proven track record*.

track-suit /'træk,su:t/ *noun*, *pl* -suits [count] : a pair of loose pants and a matching jacket that are worn especially during exercise

1 tract /'trækt/ *noun*, *pl* tracts [count]

1 : a system of body parts or organs that has a particular purpose • the digestive/urinary/respiratory *tract*

2 : an area of land • She bought a 200-acre *tract* out in the country. • large/huge/vast *tracts of land* — compare ²TRACT

2 tract *noun*, *pl* tracts [count] : a small, thin book that typically expresses a group's political or religious ideas • religious *tracts* — compare ¹TRACT

trac-ta-ble /'træktəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *formal*

1 : easily managed or controlled • This new approach should make the problem more *tractable*. — opposite INTRACTABLE

2 : willing to learn or be guided by another • He's a very *tractable* child. • a *tractable* horse

tract house *noun*, *pl* ~ houses [count] *US* : a house that is one of many similar houses built on an area of land

trac-tion /'træksən/ *noun* [noncount]

1 a : the force that causes a moving thing to stick against the surface it is moving along • These tires get good *traction* on wet roads. • A patch of ice caused the car to lose *traction*. **b** : the power that is used to pull something • steam *traction*

2 medical : a way of treating broken bones in which a device gently pulls the bones back into place • She was *in traction* for three weeks after she broke her hip.

3 informal : the support, interest, etc., that is needed for something to succeed or make progress • The bill failed to *gain traction* in the Senate. • We didn't *get traction* on this idea until the board took interest.

trac-tor /'træktə/ *noun*, *pl* -tors [count]

1 : a large vehicle that has two large back wheels and two smaller front wheels and that is used to pull farm equipment

2 *US* : a short, heavy truck that is designed to pull a large trailer

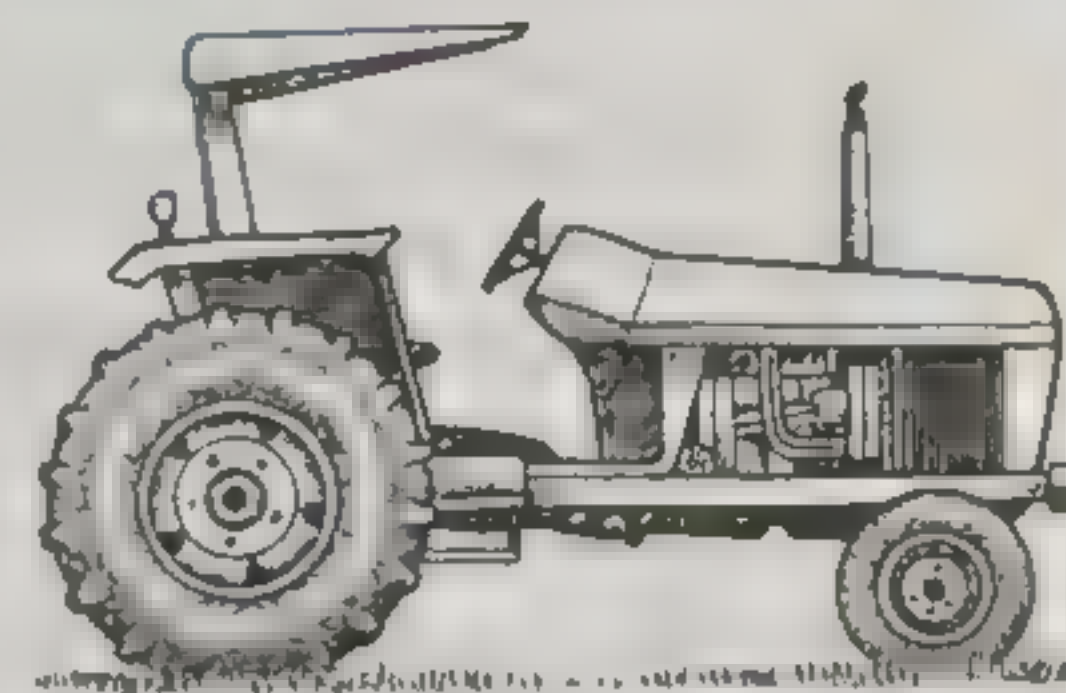
tractor-trailer *noun*, *pl* -ers [count] *US* : SEMITRAILER **2**

trad /'træd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] chiefly Brit : TRADITIONAL • *trad jazz*

trad-able also **trade-able** /'treɪdəbəl/ *adj* : able to be bought or sold • *tradable* stocks • Those company shares are not *tradable*.

1 trade /'treɪd/ *noun*, *pl* trades

1 a [noncount] : the activity or process of buying, selling, or exchanging goods or services : COMMERCE • foreign/inter-



tractor

national *trade* • the *trade* between the two countries • The tariff is a barrier to *trade*. = The tariff is a *trade* barrier. • *trade* agreements • a *trade* route [=a route used for transporting goods] — see also FREE TRADE, TRADE DEFICIT, TRADE SURPLUS **b** : the amount of things or services that are bought and sold : the money made by buying and selling things or services [noncount] *Trade* accounts for half of our gross national product. [singular] The store does a brisk/lucrative *trade* in T-shirts. [=the store sells a lot of T-shirts]

2 [count] **a** : the act of exchanging one thing for another • My cupcake for your brownie is a fair/good *trade*. [=swap] **b** *US, sports* : the act of giving one of your players to another team and getting one of their players in return • The Tigers made a few good *trades* this season and picked up some promising players.

3 : a job; *especially* : a job that requires special training and skills and that is done by using your hands [count] Are you interested in learning a new *trade*? [=learning the skills that are needed to perform a different job] • She entered the *trade* [=she began working in her profession] just after graduating from high school. [noncount] I am a carpenter/electrician/beautician *by trade*. [=I work as a carpenter/electrician/beautician] — see also JACK-OF-ALL-TRADES

4 [count] : a certain kind of business or industry • the drug *trade* • The tourist *trade* is our main source of state revenue. • a *trade* group/association • *trade* publications — see also RAG TRADE

tools of the/your trade : a set of tools or skills that are necessary for a particular kind of job or work • She showed me her paints, brushes, and the other *tools of her trade*. • When you work with young children, patience and consistency are *tools of the trade*.

trick of the/your trade : a quick or clever way of doing something that you have learned usually as part of your job • Let me show you a little *trick of the trade*. • a mystery writer who knows all the *tricks of his trade*

— see also STOCK-IN-TRADE

²trade verb trades; trad-ed; trad-ing

1 **a** : to give something to someone and receive something in return : to give something in exchange for something else [no obj] Do you want to *trade*? [=swap] • If you don't like your seat, I'll *trade* with you. [+ obj] We *traded* [=switched] seats halfway through the show. • I'll *trade* my chips for your popcorn. = I'll *trade* you my chips for your popcorn. • I *trad-ed* seats with her halfway through the show. • The boys are on the phone *trading* jokes/secrets. [=telling each other jokes/secrets] • I got tired of listening to them *trade insults*. [=insult each other] • I would love to *trade places* with him. [=I would love to be in his situation] **b** [+ obj] *US, sports* : to give (one of your players) to another team in exchange for one of their players • He was *traded* to the Yankees. • They *traded* him to the Broncos.

2 [+ obj] : to stop using (one thing) and start using another • I *traded* my pen for a pencil and kept writing.

3 **a** [no obj] : to buy, sell, or exchange goods or services — often + *with* or *in* • The two countries continue to *trade with* each other. • They are suspected of *trading in* illegal weapons. • China is one of our biggest *trading* partners. **b** : to buy and sell stocks, bonds, etc. [+ obj] Their firm specializes in *trading* bonds. [no obj] She mostly *trades* in stocks. • The stock is *trading* at [=is being sold for] \$71 a share.

4 [no obj] *chiefly Brit* : to exist as a company or business • Our company *trades* [=does business] under the name Smith & Sons.

trade down [phrasal verb] : to sell something you own and buy a similar thing that costs less money • They *traded down* to a smaller house after their children had grown up and moved away.

trade in [phrasal verb] *trade (something) in* or *trade in (something)* : to sell (something) back to a business as part of your payment for something else • We *traded* our car *in* for a newer model. • *Trade in* your car and get \$3,000 towards a new car! — see also TRADE-IN

trade off [phrasal verb] **1** *trade off* or *trade off (something)* *US* — used to describe a situation in which one person does something, then another person does it, and so on • When you get tired of driving, I'll *trade off* with you. = When you get tired of driving, we can *trade off*. [=when you get tired, I will drive for a while] • They *trade off* [=take turns] babysitting each other's kids. • Two of the band members *traded off* guitar solos. [=they took turns playing guitar solos] **2** *trade off (something)* : to give up (something that you want) in order to have something else —

usually + *for* • The car's designers *traded off* some power for greater fuel efficiency. — see also TRADE-OFF

trade on [phrasal verb] *trade on (someone or something)* : to use (something) in a way that helps you : to get an advantage from (something) • He wants to succeed by working hard instead of just *trading on* his good looks.

trade up [phrasal verb] : to sell something you own and buy a similar thing that is more expensive • They keep *trading up*, buying larger and larger houses.

trade book noun, pl ~ *books* [count] : a book that is published for and sold to the general public

trade deficit noun, pl ~ *-cits* [count] *finance* : a situation in which a country buys more from other countries than it sells to other countries : the amount of money by which a country's imports are greater than its exports • We have an annual *trade deficit* of \$6.2 billion. — called also (*Brit*) *trade gap*; opposite TRADE SURPLUS

trade fair noun, pl ~ *fairs* [count] : TRADE SHOW

trade-in /'treɪd,ɪn/ noun, pl *-ins* [count] : something (such as a used car) that you sell to a business as part of your payment for something new • Bring in your *trade-in* and receive \$3,000 towards any new car on the lot. — see also *trade in* at ²TRADE

trade-mark /'treɪd,mɑːk/ noun, pl *-marks* [count]

1 : something (such as a word) that identifies a particular company's product and cannot be used by another company without permission • "Kleenex" is a registered *trademark*. — abbr. *TM*

2 : a quality or way of behaving, speaking, etc., that is very typical of a particular person, group, or organization • Outspokenness has always been his *trademark*. • Courtesy is the company's *trademark*. — often used before another noun • She greeted us with her *trademark* smile.

— *trade-marked* /'treɪd,mɑːkt/ *adj* • That name is *trade-marked*. = That is a *trademarked* name.

trade name noun, pl ~ *names* [count]

1 : BRAND NAME • Ibuprofen is sold under several *trade names*.

2 : the name of a business

trade-off /'treɪd,ɔːf/ noun, pl *-offs* [count]

1 : a situation in which you must choose between or balance two things that are opposite or cannot be had at the same time — often + *between* • There's often a *trade-off between* the need for safety and the desire to work quickly.

2 *US* : something that you do not want but must accept in order to have something that you want • The job pays well. The biggest *trade-off* is that you have to work long hours. — see also *trade off* at ²TRADE

trader /'treɪdər/ noun, pl *-ers* [count] : a person who buys, sells, or exchanges goods • She is a stock/bond/commodities *trader*. • early explorers and fur *traders*

trade school noun, pl ~ *schools* [count] *US* : a school in which people learn how to do a job that requires special skills • an automotive *trade school*

trade secret noun, pl ~ *-crets* [count] : something (such as a special way of doing or making something) that is known only by the company that uses it and is protected from competitors

trade show noun, pl ~ *shows* [count] : a large gathering in which different companies in a particular field or industry show their products to possible customers • The company unveiled a new product at the annual *trade show* this week. — called also *trade fair*

trades-man /'treɪdzmən/ noun, pl *-men* /-mən/ [count]

1 : a person who works in a job that requires special skill or training • electricians, plumbers, and other *tradesmen*. • He joined the *tradesmen's* union.

2 *chiefly Brit* : someone who sells or delivers goods; *especially* : SHOPKEEPER

trades-people /'treɪdz,piːpəl/ noun [plural]

1 : people who work in a trade : people whose professions require special skills and work that is done with the hands • Local *tradespeople* like plumbers and electricians have raised their rates.

2 *Brit* : people who own and run shops : shopkeepers or merchants

trade surplus noun, pl ~ *-pluses* [count] *finance* : a situation in which a country sells more to other countries than it buys from other countries : the amount of money by which a country's exports are greater than its imports • The country's *trade surplus* increased last year. • a trade surplus of almost \$10 billion — opposite TRADE DEFICIT

trade union *noun, pl ~ unions* [count] *Brit* : LABOR UNION

— **trade unionist** *noun, pl ~ -ists* [count] *Brit*

trade wind *noun, pl ~ winds* [count] : a wind that blows almost constantly to the west and towards the equator — usually plural • sailors who followed the *trade winds*

trading *noun* [noncount] : the act or practice of buying and selling something (such as stocks or bonds) • *Trading* was slow at the stock market today. • He's accused of *insider trading*. [=illegally using a company's secret information to buy and sell that company's stocks] — often used before another noun • a major *trading* center of Europe • a *trading* company/partner

trading card *noun, pl ~ cards* [count] : a card that usually has pictures of and information about someone (such as an athlete) and that is part of a set which you collect by exchanging cards with other people • He had a complete set of his favorite baseball team's *trading cards*.

trading post *noun, pl ~ posts* [count] : a place (such as a store, a town, or a fort) that is far from other towns and is used as a center for buying, selling, and trading goods and services • The French set up a *trading post* on the coast. • The town was first established as a *trading post*.

tra-di-tion /trə'dɪʃən/ *noun, pl -tions*

1 : a way of thinking, behaving, or doing something that has been used by the people in a particular group, family, society, etc., for a long time [count] cultural *traditions* • an ancient/old *tradition* • One of our town's time-honored *traditions* is to have an Easter egg hunt the week before Easter. • It is their *tradition* to give thanks before they start eating. • There's an office *tradition* of wearing casual clothes on Fridays. • Our company has a long *tradition* [=history] of excellence in our field. • My dad and granddad were both carpenters, and my brother is *carrying on the tradition*. [=my brother is also a carpenter] • They no longer *follow the traditions* of their ancestors. [noncount] The cheese is made according to *tradition*. [=made in way that has been used for many years; made in the traditional way] • We *broke with tradition* and had goose for Thanksgiving instead of turkey. • *By tradition*, the celebration begins at midnight. • They no longer *follow tradition*. • a ceremony *steeped in tradition* [=having many traditional parts]

2 [noncount] : the stories, beliefs, etc., that have been part of the culture of a group of people for a long time • According to *tradition*, the goddess lies sleeping beneath the mountain. • He studied the Anglo-Saxon *oral tradition*. [=the stories, beliefs, etc., that a group of people shared by telling stories and talking to each other]

3 [singular] — used to say that someone has qualities which are like the qualities of another well-known person or group of people from the past • He's a politician in the best liberal *tradition*. [=a politician like other liberal politicians of the past] • a politician *in the (great/grand) tradition of* Franklin Delano Roosevelt

tra-di-tion-al /trə'dɪʃənəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 **a** : based on a way of thinking, behaving, or doing something that has been used by the people in a particular group, family, society, etc., for a long time : following the tradition of a certain group or culture • It is *traditional* to eat turkey and cranberry sauce on Thanksgiving. • We often cook *traditional* Mexican meals for our guests. • She wore a *traditional* Japanese kimono. • a *traditional* Russian fairy tale **b** : typical or normal for something or someone : having the qualities, beliefs, etc., that are usual or expected in a particular type of person or thing • She is a *traditional* liberal politician. • We got a *traditional* bank loan with a fixed interest rate.

2 : based on old-fashioned ideas : not new, different, or modern • I prefer a more *traditional* style of furniture. • His views on marriage are quite *traditional*. He says that the wife should stay home with the children while the husband works. • *traditional* beliefs/values

— **tra-di-tion-al-ly** *adv* • *Traditionally*, guests are served first. • She thinks too *traditionally* for my taste.

tra-di-tion-al-ist /trə'dɪʃənəlɪst/ *noun, pl -ists* [count] : a person who believes that older ways of doing or thinking about things are better than newer ways : a person who follows a particular and established tradition • She is a *traditionalist* when it comes to men's and women's roles. • conservative/religious *traditionalists* • a *traditionalist* view

— **tra-di-tion-al-ism** /trə'dɪʃənəlɪzəm/ *noun* [noncount] • religious *traditionalism*

tra-duce /trə'duːs, Brit trə'djuːs/ *verb* -duc-es; -duced;

-duc-ing [+ obj] *formal* : to tell lies about (someone) : SLANDER • He was *traduced* in the press.

¹**traf-fic** /'træfɪk/ *noun* [noncount]

1 : all the vehicles driving along a certain road or in a certain area • Let's leave early to avoid rush hour *traffic*. • *Traffic* is backed up to the bridge. • *traffic* congestion • a *traffic* accident

2 : the movement of airplanes, ships, etc., along routes • air *traffic* • Barge *traffic* was halted because of flooding.

3 : the amount of people who pass through a certain place or travel in a certain way • Airlines saw a decrease in passenger *traffic* this year. • There is a walkway along the bridge for *pedestrian/foot traffic*. [=people who are walking] • We get a lot of *foot traffic* [=people who walk by and stop to look] in our shop.

4 *computers* : the number of people who visit a Web site or use a system • We're trying to increase *traffic* to our site. • Internet/network *traffic* can cause slower response times during peak hours.

5 : the buying and selling of illegal goods or services especially between countries • Drug *traffic* across the border has increased.

²**traffic** *verb* -fics; -ficked; -fick-ing [no obj] : to buy or sell something especially illegally — usually + *in* • a gang that *traffics in* drugs — sometimes used figuratively • It is a play that *traffics in* bawdy humor. • I don't *traffic in* sarcasm.

traffic circle *noun, pl ~*

circles [count] *US* : a circular area where two or more roads meet and on which all vehicles must go in the same direction — called also (US) *rotary*, (Brit) *roundabout*

traffic cone *noun, pl ~*

cones [count] : a brightly colored plastic cone that is placed on a road to warn drivers not to drive too close to an area where work is being done, an accident has occurred, etc.

traffic cop *noun, pl ~ cops* [count] : a police officer who directs traffic or gives fines to people who break traffic laws • A *traffic cop* pulled me over and gave me a speeding ticket.

traffic court *noun, pl ~ courts* [count, noncount] *US* : a court of law where drivers who have broken traffic laws are punished • She has to be in *traffic court* this morning.

traffic island *noun, pl ~ -lands* [count] *US* : ISLAND 2a

traffic jam *noun, pl ~ jams* [count] : a situation in which a long line of vehicles on a road have stopped moving or are moving very slowly • I'm stuck in a *traffic jam*, so I'll be late.

traf-ficked /'træfɪkt/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : having a certain amount of traffic • That is a heavily *trafficked* [=used] bridge. • It's one of the most *trafficked* [=the most often visited] sites on the Web.

traf-fick-er /'træfɪkə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count] : a person who buys and sells something that is illegal • a drug *trafficker*

trafficking *noun* [noncount] : the act or business of illegally buying something and selling it especially in another country • She was convicted of drug *trafficking*.

traffic light *noun, pl ~ lights* [count] : an electric lamp that usually has a red, a green, and a yellow light and that is used to control traffic • Take a left at the *traffic light*. — often plural — called also *light*, *traffic signal*, (US) *stoplight*; see picture at STREET

traffic ticket *noun, pl ~ -ets* [count] : ¹TICKET 3 • I got a *traffic ticket* for speeding.

traffic warden *noun, pl ~ -dens* [count] *Brit* : someone whose job is to check for cars that are parked illegally

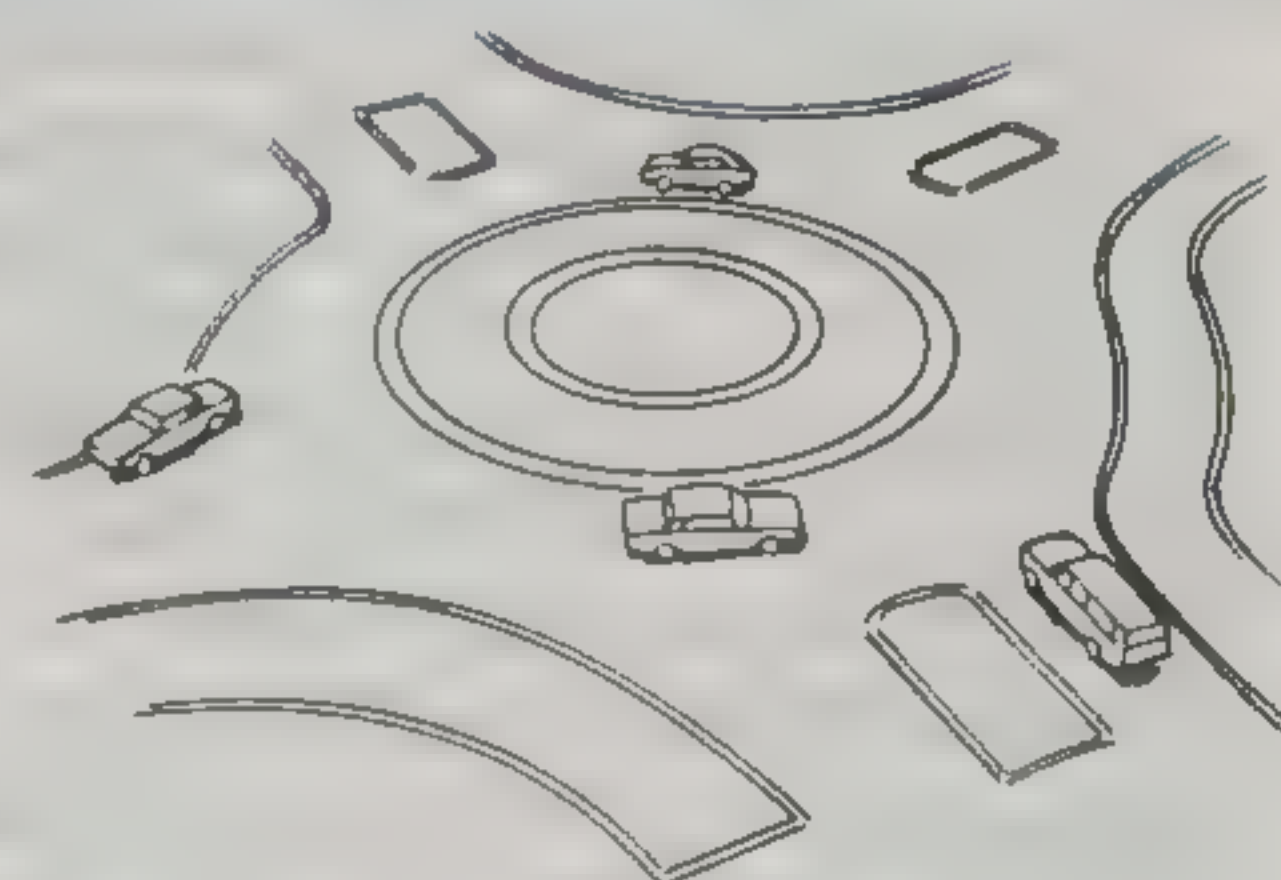
tra-ge-di-an /trə'dʒiːdɪən/ *noun, pl -ans* [count]

1 : a person who writes tragedies

2 : an actor who often plays tragic roles

trag-e-dy /'trædʒədi/ *noun, pl -dies*

1 **a** : a very bad event that causes great sadness and often involves someone's death [count] Her son's death was a terrible *tragedy*. [noncount] The situation ended in *tragedy* when the gunman shot and killed two students. **b** [count] : a very sad, unfortunate, or upsetting situation : something that causes strong feelings of sadness or regret • It is a *tragedy* [=pity, shame] that so many victims are afraid to report the abuse. • The biggest *tragedy* here is that the accident could have easily been prevented.



traffic circle

2 a [count] : a play, movie, etc., that is serious and has a sad ending (such as the death of the main character) • “Hamlet” is one of Shakespeare’s best-known *tragedies*. • a Greek *tragedy* **b** [noncount] : plays, movies, etc., that are tragedies • The students are studying Greek *tragedy*. • an actor who is drawn to *tragedy*

trag·ic /ˈtrædʒɪk/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : causing strong feelings of sadness usually because someone has died in a way that seems very shocking, unfair, etc. • Their deaths were *tragic* and untimely. • They both died in a *tragic* car accident. • Romeo and Juliet’s *tragic* love affair • Pride was his *tragic flaw*. [=a bad quality that causes someone to fail, die, etc.] — sometimes used in an exaggerated way to describe something that is very bad, unfortunate, etc. • She has a *tragic* lack of imagination.

2 : involving very sad or serious topics • We saw a *tragic* play about a man with AIDS. : of or relating to tragedy • the *tragic* characters of her novel

— **trag·i·cal·ly** /ˈtrædʒɪkli/ *adv* • He died *tragically*. • *Tragically*, she could not afford treatment for her cancer.

tragi·com·e·dy /ˌtrædʒɪˈkɑːmədi/ *noun*, *pl* -**dies** [count]

: a play, movie, situation, etc., that is both sad and funny •

The play is a *tragicomedy* about a man’s search for love.

— **tragi·com·ic** /ˌtrædʒɪˈkɑːmɪk/ *also* **tragi·com·i·cal** /ˌtrædʒɪˈkɑːmɪkəl/ *adj* • a *tragicomic* view of life

¹trail /ˈtreɪl/ *verb* **trails; trailed; trailing**

1 a [+ *obj*] : to pull (something) behind you especially on the ground • The dog was *trailing* [=dragging] its leash. • The little girl went to her room, *trailing* her teddy bear behind her. **b** [no *obj*] : to be pulled behind someone or something • The dog’s leash was *trailing* along/on the ground. • The little girl’s teddy bear *trailed* behind her.

2 : to walk or move slowly as you follow behind (someone or something) [+ *obj*] He *trailed* us as we worked our way up the mountain. [no *obj*] She marched down the street with her children *trailing* (along) behind/after (her). • He *trailed behind* (us) as we worked our way up the mountain.

3 : to be behind in a race or competition [no *obj*] The President is *trailing* in the polls as the election approaches. • We were *trailing* by 3 runs at the end of the 6th inning. [+ *obj*] Our team *trailed* their team at the end of the 6th inning.

4 [+ *obj*] : to follow and watch or try to catch (someone or something) • The dogs were *trailing* a fox. • Police *trailed* the suspect for six blocks.

5 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [no *obj*] : to move, flow, or extend slowly in a thin line • Smoke *trailed* (away) from the chimney. • A tear *trailed* down her cheek.

6 [no *obj*] : to hang down to the ground • The curtains *trailed* onto the floor. — see also TRAILING

trail away/off [phrasal verb] — used to say that someone’s voice becomes softer and softer and then stops • She started asking him a question, but then her voice *trailed off*. • “Do you think you could . . .” she said before *trailing off*.

²trail *noun*, *pl* **trails** [count]

1 : a path through a forest, field, etc. • Stay on the *trail* if we get separated. • a bike/ski *trail* — see also NATURE TRAIL

2 : the marks, signs, smells, etc., that are left behind by someone or something and that can often be followed • He left (behind) a *trail* of blood. • The car left a *trail* of smoke as it sped off. • The storm left a *trail* of destruction in its wake. [=the storm caused a lot of destruction as it moved across the land] • The dogs were following her *trail*. = The dogs were *on her trail* • When we got to the river, the *trail went cold* [=it could no longer be found or followed] • The police are *hot on the trail* of the escaped convicts. [=are chasing the escaped convicts and are close to catching them] — sometimes used figuratively • As he gained more political power, he left a *trail* of bitterness behind him. [=he treated people badly and made them feel bitter] — see also PAPER TRAIL, VAPOR TRAIL

3 : a route that someone follows to go somewhere or achieve something • following the *trail* to success • The candidates talked about the people they met on the *campaign trail* [=the people they met while going to different places during the campaign]

blaze a trail see ⁴BLAZE

hit the trail *chiefly US* : to begin a journey • We should be ready to *hit the trail* by 8:00. • The candidates will soon be *hitting the campaign trail*.

trail·blaz·er /ˈtreɪlˌbleɪzə/ *noun*, *pl* -**ers** [count]

1 : a person who makes, does, or discovers something new and makes it acceptable or popular • one of the *trailblazers*

[=pioneers] of rock and roll • technological *trailblazers*

2 : a person who marks or prepares a trail through a forest or field for other people to follow

— **trail·blaz·ing** /ˈtreɪlˌbleɪzɪŋ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] • *trail-blazing* architectural designs

trail·er /ˈtreɪlə/ *noun*, *pl* -**ers** [count]

1 : a long platform or box with wheels that is pulled behind a truck or car and used to transport things • We helped them load the furniture onto the *trailer*. • a horse/boat *trailer* — see also TRACTOR-TRAILER

2 *chiefly US* **a** : a vehicle that can be pulled by a truck or car and that can be parked and used as an office, vacation home, etc. • We parked our *trailer* [= (Brit) *caravan*] next to the lake for the summer. **b** : MOBILE HOME

3 : a selected group of scenes that are shown to advertise a movie : PREVIEW • a theatrical *trailer*

trailer park *noun*, *pl* ~ **parks** [count] *chiefly US* : a large piece of land where trailers (sense 2a) can be parked and connected to electricity and water supplies

trailer trash *noun* [noncount] *US, informal + offensive* : poor people who live in trailers • They called her *trailer trash*.

trail·head /ˈtreɪlˌhed/ *noun*, *pl* -**heads** [count] *chiefly US* : the beginning of a trail through a forest • The hikers met at the *trailhead* at 8 a.m.

trailing *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : having stems that hang downward or rest on the ground • *trailing* flowers/plants/vines • *trailing* rosemary

2 : forming the back or last part of something • the *trailing edge* of the airplane’s wing [=the edge of the wing that is not facing forward]

trail mix *noun* [noncount] *chiefly US* : a mixture of nuts, seeds, dried fruits, and sometimes chocolate that is eaten as a snack

¹train /ˈtreɪn/ *noun*, *pl* **trains**

1 : a group of vehicles that travel on a track and are connected to each other and usually to an engine : a connected group of railroad cars [count] The *train* pulled into the station. • You can get off/on the *train* in Atlanta. • I took a *train* to Madrid. • We caught the last *train*. • We slept on the *train*. • a *passenger train* [=a train that people use for traveling] • a *commuter train* [=a train that people use to get to and from work] • an *express train* [=a train that has very few stops] • a *subway train* [=an underground train] • (US) a *freight train* = (Brit) a *goods train* [=a train carrying cargo] [noncount] We traveled *by train* through Europe. — often used before another noun • a *train* [=railroad] station • *train* tracks • a *train* schedule/signal/ticket • a *train* crash = (US) a *train* wreck

2 [count] *old-fashioned* : a group of people, vehicles, or animals that are moving in a line • a funeral *train* • a mule *train* — see also WAGON TRAIN

3 [count] : an orderly series of events, actions, or ideas • a *train* of events • I lost my *train of thought* [=I forgot what I was thinking about] when you interrupted me.

4 [count] *technical* : a series of moving machine parts (such as gears) for controlling motion • There’s a problem with the car’s drive *train*. • the gear *train*

5 [count] : a part of a long dress that trails behind the woman who is wearing it • the bride’s *train* — see color picture on page C16

in train *Brit, formal* : in an active state or condition • a process that had been *in train* for decades • The plans have been *set in train* [=set in motion]

— see also GRAVY TRAIN

²train *verb* **trains; trained; training**

1 a [+ *obj*] : to teach (someone) the skills needed to do something (such as a job) : to give instruction to (someone) • He was never formally *trained* as a chef. • I’ve been *trained* in first aid. • I’m *training* her to take over my job when I retire. • My boss is *training* me on the new equipment. • We need to *train* more nurses. • They are *highly trained* professionals. **b** [no *obj*] : to be taught the skills needed to do something (such as a job) • I’m *training* to be/become a nurse. • I *trained* at that hospital. • He’s *training* as a chef.

2 [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone or something) to develop an ability or skill • She had to *train* her mind to think scientifically. • You can *train* yourself to relax. • A *trained* [=practiced] eye can detect the slightest imperfection. • Only a *trained* ear could hear the difference.

3 a [no *obj*] : to try to make yourself stronger, faster, or better at doing something before competing in an event or competition • The team *trains* five hours a day. • He is *training* for

the Olympics. **b** [+ *obj*] : to help (someone) to prepare for an event or competition : to coach (an athlete) • He *trained* several generations of track-and-field athletes.

4 [+ *obj*] : to teach (an animal) to obey commands • She *trained* her dog to sit. • The police use *trained* dogs to sniff out drugs. • The dog was never properly *trained*. [=taught to obey] — see also HOUSE-TRAIN

5 [+ *obj*] : to make (a plant) grow in a particular direction usually by bending, cutting, or tying it • You can *train* this vine to climb up a wall.

6 [+ *obj*] : to aim or point (something) toward something or in a particular direction • He *trained* the flashlight into the hole. • We *trained* our eyes on the horizon. [=we looked toward the horizon]

— **train·able** /ˈtreɪnəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] • a very *trainable* dog

train·ee /ˈtreɪˈni:/ *noun*, *pl* -ees [count] : a person who is being trained for a job • on-the-job *trainees* • management *trainees* • a *trainee* cook

train·er /ˈtreɪnər/ *noun*, *pl* -ers [count]

1 : a person who teaches or coaches athletes or animals : a person who trains athletes or animals • the boxer and his *trainer* • a horse *trainer* • She hired a personal *trainer*.

2 *US* : a person who treats the injuries of the members of a sports team • an athletic *trainer* • the team *trainer*

3 *Brit* : SNEAKER

train·ing /ˈtreɪnɪŋ/ *noun* [noncount]

1 : a process by which someone is taught the skills that are needed for an art, profession, or job • The job requires special *training*. • She owes her flexibility to her early *training* as a dancer. • He received *training* in first aid. • combat/flight *training* • *training* programs • on-the-job *training* [=training that you are given while you are doing a job and getting paid] • She's *in training* to be an astronaut. [=she is being trained to be an astronaut] • a young doctor who's still *in training* • a *training manual* [=a book of instructions for a job or task] — see also BASIC TRAINING, TOILET TRAINING

2 : the process by which an athlete prepares for competition by exercising, practicing, etc. • She's *in training* for the Olympics. — see also SPRING TRAINING

training college *noun*, *pl* ~ -leges [count] *Brit* : a college that prepares people for a particular job; especially : a college for the training of teachers

training shoe *noun*, *pl* ~ shoes [count] chiefly *Brit* : SNEAKER

training wheels *noun* [plural] *US* : a small pair of extra wheels that are added to a child's bicycle so that the bicycle can be balanced more easily while the child is learning to ride it — called also (*Brit*) *stabilisers*

train set *noun*, *pl* ~ sets [count] : a toy train with its tracks, buildings, etc.

train·spot·ter /ˈtreɪnˌspɔ:tər/ *noun*, *pl* -ters [count] *Brit* : a person who is interested in trains and who writes down the numbers of passing trains as a hobby

— **train·spot·ting** /ˈtreɪnˌspɔ:tɪŋ/ *noun* [noncount]

traipse /ˈtreɪps/ *verb* **traips·es; traipsed; traips·ing** [*no obj*] *informal* : to walk or go somewhere • I *traipsed* all over town looking for the right dress. • I'm too old to go *traipsing* around Europe.

trait /ˈtreɪt, *Brit* ˈtreɪ/ *noun*, *pl* **traits** [count] *formal* : a quality that makes one person or thing different from another • Humility is an admirable *trait*. [=quality] • This dog breed has a number of desirable *traits*. • feminine/masculine *traits* • inherited and acquired *traits*

traitor /ˈtreɪtər/ *noun*, *pl* -tors [count] : a person who is not loyal to his or her own country, friends, etc. : a person who betrays a country or group of people by helping or supporting an enemy • She has been called a *traitor* to the liberal party's cause. • He was a *traitor* who betrayed his country by selling military secrets to the enemy. • He *turned traitor*. [=he became a traitor; he betrayed his country/friends]

— **traitor·ous** /ˈtreɪtərəs/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] • *traitorous* acts

tra·jec·to·ry /trəˈdʒektəri/ *noun*, *pl* -ries [count] : the curved path along which something (such as a rocket) moves through the air or through space • the *trajectory* of the missile — often used figuratively to describe a process of change or development that leads toward a particular result • Her early education put her on a *trajectory* toward a distinguished career. • his political *trajectory* from local activist to world leader

tram /ˈtræm/ *noun*, *pl* **trams** [count]

1 *US* : a vehicle that runs on a track or on rails and that is usually used to carry groups of people for a short distance • Take the *tram* to the departure terminal.

2 chiefly *Brit* : STREETCAR

tram·car /ˈtræmˌkɑr/ *noun*, *pl* -cars [count] chiefly *Brit* : STREETCAR

tram·line /ˈtræmˌlaɪn/ *noun*, *pl* -lines [count] *Brit* : the metal tracks on a street that a streetcar moves along

tram·mel /ˈtræmə/ *verb* -mels; *US* -meled or *Brit* -melled; *US* -mel·ing or *Brit* -mel·ling [+ *obj*] *formal* : to limit or restrict (something or someone) unfairly • laws that *trammel* our rights as citizens

tramp /ˈtræmp/ *verb* **tramps; tramped; tramp·ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to walk or step heavily • Workmen were *tramping* [(US) *tromping*] through the house all day.

2 : to walk for a long distance or time [*no obj*] We spent the day *tramping* through the woods. [+ *obj*] He *tramped* the streets looking for his dog.

tramp *noun*, *pl* **tramps**

1 [count] : a person who travels from place to place and does not have a home or much money • *tramps* [=hobos, vagrants] sleeping under a bridge

2 [count] chiefly *US*, *disapproving* + somewhat *old-fashioned* : a woman who has sex with many different men

3 [count] somewhat *old-fashioned* : a walking trip : HIKE • a *tramp* through the woods

4 [singular] : the sound made by someone walking heavily • I could hear the *tramp* of boots on the path ahead.

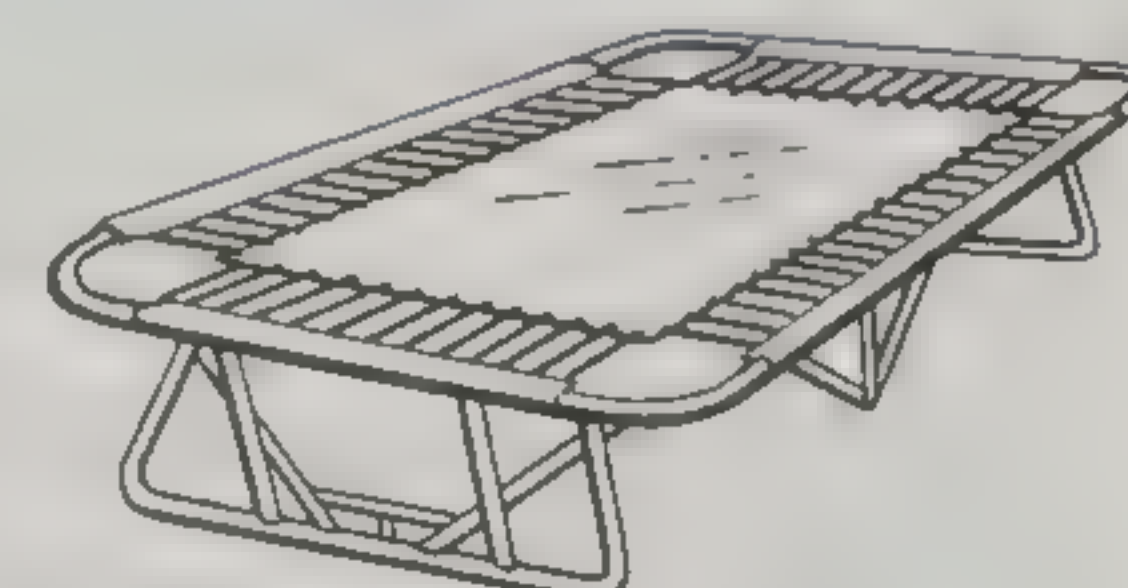
tram·ple /ˈtræmpəl/ *verb* **tram·ples; tram·pled; tram·pling**

1 : to cause damage or pain by walking or stepping heavily on something or someone [*no obj*] The workmen *trampled* on my flower bed. [+ *obj*] Her glasses were *trampled* underfoot by the crowd. • Many people were *trampled* to death trying to escape the burning building.

2 : to treat other people's rights, wishes, or feelings as if they are worthless or not important [*no obj*] They are *trampling* on our rights. [+ *obj*] They are *trampling* our rights. • Their most cherished traditions have been *trampled*.

tram·po·line /ˈtræmpəˈliːn/

noun, *pl* -lines [count] : a piece of equipment that has a sheet of strong cloth attached by springs to a metal frame and that is used for jumping up and down for exercise or as a sport



trampoline

trance /ˈtræns/ *noun*, *pl*

tranc·es [count]

1 : a state that is like being asleep except that you can move and respond to questions and commands like a person who is awake • The hypnotist put him in a (hypnotic) *trance*. • The spiritual healer *fell/went into a trance*.

2 : a state in which you are not aware of what is happening around you because you are thinking of something else • He was staring out the window *in a trance*.

tran·ny /ˈtræni/ *noun*, *pl* -nies [count] *informal*

1 : a transsexual or a transvestite

2 *US* : TRANSMISSION **3** • He fixed the car's *tranny*.

tran·quil /ˈtræŋkwəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : quiet and peaceful • a *tranquil* life/sea/village

— **tran·quil·ly** *adverb*

tran·quil·i·ty (*US*) or chiefly *Brit* **tran·quil·li·ty** /trænˈkwɪləti/ *noun* [noncount] : the quality or state of being quiet and peaceful • the *tranquility* of the quiet countryside • peace and *tranquility*

tran·quil·ize also *Brit* **tran·quil·lize** /ˈtræŋkwəˌlaɪz/ *verb* -iz·es; -ized; -iz·ing [+ *obj*] : to use a drug to cause (a person or animal) to become very relaxed and calm • They *tranquilized* the bear with a dart so that it could be safely moved to a different area.

tran·quil·iz·er also *Brit* **tran·quil·lis·er** /ˈtræŋkwəˌlaɪzər/ *noun*, *pl* -iz·ers [count] : a drug that causes a person or animal to become very relaxed and calm • a patient who is on/taking *tranquilizers* • They shot the bear with a *tranquilizer* gun. [=a gun that shoots a dart which contains a drug that causes a wild animal to become very relaxed and unable to move]

trans- *prefix*

1 : on or to the other side of : across or beyond • *transatlan-*tic

2 : so as to change in form or position • *transliterate* • *transplant*

trans-act /træn'zækt/ *verb* -acts; -act-ed; -act-ing [+ *obj*] *somewhat formal* : to do (business) with another person, company, etc. • We had some important business to *transact* with our distributors. • I prefer not to *transact* [=conduct] business over the phone. • *transact* a real estate deal

trans-ac-tion /træn'zækʃən/ *noun*, *pl* -tions

1 [count] : a business deal : an occurrence in which goods, services, or money are passed from one person, account, etc., to another • business/commercial *transactions* • The entire *transaction* took place over the phone. • a real estate *transaction* • a record of your recent banking *transactions* • electronic *transactions*

2 [noncount] : the act or process of doing business with another person, company, etc. : the act or process of transacting business • the *transaction* of business over the phone

trans-at-lan-tic /,trænsət'læntɪk/ *adj*

1 : going across the Atlantic Ocean • a *transatlantic* cable • a *transatlantic* voyage

2 : located on or coming from the other side of the Atlantic Ocean • our *transatlantic* friends

3 : involving people or countries on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean • a *transatlantic* conspiracy

trans-ceiv-er /træn'si:və/ *noun*, *pl* -ers [count] : a radio that can send and receive messages

tran-scend /træn'send/ *verb* -scends; -scend-ed; -scend-ing [+ *obj*] *formal* : to rise above or go beyond the normal limits of (something) • music that *transcends* cultural boundaries • She was able to *transcend* her own suffering and help others. • Her concerns *transcended* local issues.

tran-scen-dent /træn'sendənt/ *adj*, *formal*

1 : going beyond the limits of ordinary experience • *transcendent* beings • *transcendent* truths • a *transcendent* [=transcendental] experience

2 : far better or greater than what is usual : EXTRAORDINARY • *transcendent* beauty • a *transcendent* performance

— **tran-scen-dence** /træn'sendəns/ *noun* [noncount]

tran-scen-den-tal /,træn,sen'dentl/ *adj* : TRANSCENDENT **1** • *transcendental* truths/experiences

tran-scen-den-tal-ism /,træn,sen'dentəlɪzəm/ *noun* [noncount] : a philosophy which says that thought and spiritual things are more real than ordinary human experience and material things

— **tran-scen-den-tal-ist** /,træn,sen'dentəlɪst/ *noun*, *pl* -ists [count]

Transcendental Meditation *service mark* — used for a method of meditating in which you close your eyes and repeatedly think of a simple sound, word, or phrase (called a mantra)

trans-con-ti-nen-tal /,træns,kɑ:ntə'nentl/ *adj* : going across a continent • the *transcontinental* railroad • a six-hour *transcontinental* flight • *transcontinental* shipping

tran-scribe /træn'skraɪb/ *verb* -scribes; -scribed; -scrib-ing [+ *obj*]

1 a : to make a written copy of (something) • He *transcribed* all of his great-grandfather's letters. **b** : to write down (something that is spoken) • The senator's speech was *transcribed*.

2 : to rewrite (a piece of music) so that it can be performed by a different instrument or voice • a Mozart string quartet *transcribed* for piano

3 technical : to represent (speech sounds) with written symbols • a system that allows linguists to *transcribe* the sounds of any language

4 : to change (something written) into a different language • *transcribe* textbooks into braille

— **tran-scrib-er** *noun*, *pl* -ers [count]

tran-script /'træn,skript/ *noun*, *pl* -scripts [count]

1 : a written, printed, or typed copy of words that have been spoken • a *transcript* of a radio program • a full *transcript* of the court proceedings • a *transcript* of the senator's speech

2 US : an official record of a student's grades • You must submit your college *transcript* with your job application.

tran-scrip-tion /træn'skrɪpʃən/ *noun*, *pl* -tions

1 [noncount] : the act or process of making a written, printed, or typed copy of words that have been spoken • an error in *transcription* • *Transcription* of the tapes took weeks.

2 [count] : a written, printed, or typed copy of words that have been spoken • a *transcription* [=transcript] of the tape recordings

trans-du-er /træns'du:sə, Brit træns'dju:sə/ *noun*, *pl* -ers

[count] *technical* : a device that changes power from one system into another form for another system

tran-sept /'træn,sept/ *noun*, *pl* -septs [count] : the shorter area that goes across and sticks out from the long part of a church and that gives the church the shape of a cross when it is viewed from above — compare NAVE

trans fat /'træns-, 'trænz-/ *noun* [count, noncount] *technical* : a type of fat that is found especially in some vegetable oils and that is bad for your health

¹trans-fer /træns'fə/ *verb* -fers; -ferred; -fer-ring

1 [+ *obj*] : to move (someone or something) from one place to another • We *transferred* the baby's car seat to the other car. • The patient was *transferred* to a different hospital.

2 [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to move from one person, place, or thing to another: such as **a** : to move (data, money, etc.) from one place to another electronically • *transfer* data on the hard drive to a disk • *transfer* funds electronically • He *transferred* my call to another line. **b** : to cause (a disease, virus, etc.) to move from one living thing to another : TRANSMIT • The virus is *transferred* by mosquitoes. **c technical** : to give (property or rights) to another person • He *transferred* control of the company to his son. • *transfer* property by deed

3 a [+ *obj*] : to use (something, such as an idea, a skill, etc.) for a new or different purpose • She was able to *transfer* her organizational skills to her new job. **b** [no *obj*] : to be used for a new or different purpose • Her skills *transferred* well to her new job.

4 a [no *obj*] : to stop going to one school and begin going to another • She *transferred* from another high school last year. • He *transferred* to Stanford. • (Brit) My son will *transfer* to secondary school [=will begin going to secondary school] next year. **b** : to move to a different place or job for the same employer [no *obj*] I asked to *transfer* to the sales department. [+ *obj*] He was *transferred* to the Los Angeles office last year. • She was *transferred* to a different department. • The army *transferred* him to Germany.

5 [+ *obj*] *chiefly US* : to use (credits earned at one school) at a different school • I was able to *transfer* my credits from summer school.

6 Brit, sports : to move (a player) to another team in exchange for money [+ *obj*] He was *transferred* [= (US) sold] to Arsenal. [no *obj*] He *transferred* to Arsenal.

7 : to change from one plane, bus, train, etc., to another while traveling [no *obj*] We *transferred* in Chicago. [+ *obj*] We had to *transfer* [=change] planes in Chicago. • The passengers were *transferred* to another plane.

²trans-fer /'træns,fə/ *noun*, *pl* -fers

1 a : an act or process of moving someone or something from one place to another [count] We switched to another car, and the *transfer* only took a few minutes. • They arranged for a *transfer* of the prisoner to a different prison. • a *transfer* of funds [noncount] a material that reduces heat *transfer* • speeding up data *transfer* between computers **b** [count] : a process by which one method, system, etc., is replaced by another • We are doing everything possible to ensure a smooth *transfer* to the new system.

2 [count] : the act or process of giving the property or rights of one person to another person • a *transfer* by deed or will • a *transfer* of power/ownership/wealth

3 [count] : an act of moving from one job or location to another for the same company • a *transfer* to the home office • My overseas *transfer* has been approved.

4 [count] *US* : a student who has moved from one school to another • The school accepts only a few *transfers* each year. • She's a *transfer* from the junior college. • He's a *transfer* student.

5 [count] *chiefly Brit* : a picture or label that is made on special paper so that it sticks to a surface : DECAL • The lettering was put on the sign by using *transfers*.

6 [count] *chiefly US* : a ticket that allows a passenger on a bus or train to continue traveling on another bus or train

trans-fer-able also **trans-fer-ra-ble** /træns'fərəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : capable of being moved or transferred from one place or situation to another • *transferable* skills • *transferable* college credits

2 : capable of being given or sold to another person • These plane tickets are not *transferable*. • a *transferable* life insurance policy

trans-fer-ence /træns'fərəns, 'træns,fərəns/ *noun* [noncount]

1 technical : the act of moving something from one place to another • *transference* of energy • heat *transference*

2 psychology : a process by which the feelings that you had for someone (such as a parent) when you were a child become directed to someone else (such as a psychoanalyst)

trans·fig·ure /træns'figjə, Brit træns'figə/ *verb* **-ures; -ured; -ur-ing** [+ *obj*] *literary* : to change the appearance of something or someone • Her face seemed *transfigured* by happiness.

trans·fix /træns'fiks/ *verb* **-fix-es; -fixed; -fix-ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to cause someone to sit or stand without moving because of surprise, shock, interest, etc. — usually used as (*be*) *transfixed* • He stood *transfixed* by her gaze. • The children sat *transfixed* in front of the TV.

trans·form /træns'fɔ:m/ *verb* **-forms; -formed; -form-ing** [+ *obj*] : to change (something) completely and usually in a good way • The new paint completely *transformed* [=changed the appearance of] the room. • A little creativity can *transform* an ordinary meal into a special event. • The old factory has been *transformed* into an art gallery. • The Internet has completely *transformed* [=changed the nature of] many retail businesses.

trans·for·ma·tion /trænsfə'meɪʃən/ *noun*, *pl* **-tions** : a complete or major change in someone's or something's appearance, form, etc. [*count*] His appearance has undergone a complete *transformation*. [=his appearance has changed completely] • The building underwent various *transformations* over the years. • the character's inner *transformation* [*noncount*] an agent of *transformation*

trans·for·ma·tive /træns'fɔ:mətɪv/ *adj*, *formal* : causing or able to cause a change; *especially* : causing someone's life to be different or better in some important way • a *transformative* experience • the *transformative* power of love • a *transformative* force

trans·form·er /træns'fɔ:mə/ *noun*, *pl* **-ers** [*count*] *technical* : a device that changes the voltage of an electric current

trans·fuse /træns'fju:z/ *verb* **-fus-es; -fused; -fus-ing** [+ *obj*] *medical* : to take (blood) from one person or animal and put it into another • The hospital staff *transfuses* more than 8,000 units of blood annually.

trans·fu·sion /træns'fju:ʒən/ *noun*, *pl* **-sions** : BLOOD TRANSFUSION [*noncount*] the *transfusion* of blood [*count*] Without a *transfusion* her chances of survival were slim. — often used figuratively • The project has received a much-needed *transfusion* of funds. [=has received a new supply of funds/money]

trans·gen·der /træns'ʤendə/ *adj* : of or relating to people who have a sexual identity that is not clearly male or clearly female • the *transgender* community • *transgender* issues — **trans·gen·dered** /træns'ʤendəd/ *adj* • transgendered people

trans·gress /træns'gres/ *verb* **-gress-es; -gressed; -gress-ing** *formal* : to do something that is not allowed : to disobey a command or law [*no obj*] He who *transgresses* must seek forgiveness. [+ *obj*] There are legal consequences for companies that *transgress* the rules.

— **trans·gres·sion** /træns'greʃən/ *noun*, *pl* **-sions** [*count*] • a minor *transgression* — **trans·gres·sor** /træns'gresə/ *noun*, *pl* **-sors** [*count*]

1 trans·sient /'trænzɪjənt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal*

1 : not lasting long • *transient* joys

2 : staying somewhere only a short time • a *transient* population • *transient* guests

— **tran·sience** /'trænzɪjəns/ *noun* [*noncount*] • the *transience* of fame/joy — **transiently** *adv*

2 transient *noun*, *pl* **-sients** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a person who does not have a permanent home and who stays in a place for only a short time before going somewhere else

tran·sis·tor /træn'zɪstə/ *noun*, *pl* **-tors** [*count*]

1 : a small device that is used to control the flow of electricity in radios, computers, etc.

2 somewhat old-fashioned : TRANSISTOR RADIO

transistor radio *noun*, *pl* ~ **-dios** [*count*] *somewhat old-fashioned* : a small radio that has transistors

tran·sit /'trænsət/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the act of moving people or things from one place to another • Some of the goods were lost *in transit*. [=in the process of being transported]

2 US : MASS TRANSIT • the problems of urban *transit* — often used before another noun • a proposal for a new rail *transit* route — see also RAPID TRANSIT

transit camp *noun* ~ **camps** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : a place

for refugees to stay for a short period of time

1 tran·si·tion /træn'zɪʃən/ *noun*, *pl* **-tions** : a change from one state or condition to another [*count*] We want to have a smooth *transition* when the new owners take control of the company. • the sometimes difficult *transition* from childhood to adulthood • The country made/underwent a peaceful *transition* from dictatorship to democracy. [*noncount*] The industry is undergoing *transition*. [=is changing in some important way] • The company is *in transition* [=is changing] as it adapts to the new management team.

— **tran·si·tion·al** /træn'zɪʃənəl/ *adj* • a *transitional* government • a *transitional* phase/period/stage

2 transition *verb* **-tions; -tioned; -tion-ing** [*no obj*] *chiefly US* : to make a change from one state, place, or condition to another : to make a transition • The company has *transitioned* to new management in the past year. • a student who is *transitioning* to a new school

tran·si·tive /'trænsətɪv/ *adj*, *grammar*, *of a verb* : having or taking a direct object • a *transitive* verb • In “I like pie” and “She makes hats,” the verbs “like” and “makes” are *transitive*. — compare INTRANSITIVE

— **tran·si·tive·ly** *adv* • The verb is being used *transitively*.

tran·si·to·ry /'trænsə'tɔ:ri, Brit 'trænzətɪ/ *adj* : lasting only for a short time : TEMPORARY • the *transitory* nature of earthly pleasures • a *transitory* phase

transit visa *noun*, *pl* ~ **visas** [*count*] : a document (called a visa) that allows a person to go through one country while traveling to another country

trans·late /træns'leɪt, 'trænz,leɪt/ *verb* **-lates; -lat-ed; -lat-ing**

1 : to change words from one language into another language [*no obj*] My client speaks only Spanish. Will you *translate* for me? • The French word “bonjour” *translates* as “hello” in English. [+ *obj*] We need someone who can *translate* Japanese into English. • We have *translated* the report. • The book has been *translated* into 37 languages. — compare INTERPRET

2 [+ *obj*] : to explain (something) in a way that is easier to understand • Can you *translate* this technical jargon?

3 [*no obj*] : to have the same meaning • To teenagers, “middle-aged” *translates* as “boring.” [=teenagers think middle-aged people are boring] • Seventy million Americans—that *translates* into one American out of every four—are under the age of 24.

4 : to change (something) into a different form [+ *obj*] His job is to *translate* the decision into a working program. • She needs to *translate* her ideas into action. [*no obj*] The play *translated* quite successfully to the big screen.

translate into [*phrasal verb*] **translate into (something)** : to lead to (something) as a result • Competition often *translates into* [=results in] lower costs to the consumer. • Artistic success doesn't always *translate into* financial success. • The new design *translates into* more space inside the car.

— **trans·lat·able** /træns'leɪtəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] • The phrase isn't easily *translatable*.

trans·la·tion /træns'leɪʃən/ *noun*, *pl* **-tions**

1 a : words that have been changed from one language into a different language : words that have been translated [*count*] She is working on a *translation* of the novel. • a new *translation* of the *Iliad* • an accurate *translation* • a literal *translation* • a rough/loose *translation* • There were English *translations* on the menu. [*noncount*] I have only read Dostoevsky *in translation*. [=in translated form] **b** [*noncount*] : the act or process of translating something into a different language • Some things defy *translation*. [=are impossible to translate] • The quote loses something *in translation*. [=the quote does not have the same meaning or effectiveness when it is translated into another language] • Something must have gotten *lost in translation* [=lost when changed from one language into another] because the joke isn't funny in English.

2 [*noncount*] *formal* : the act or process of changing something from one form to another : TRANSFORMATION • the *translation* of economic power into political strength

trans·la·tor /træns'leɪtə, 'trænz,leɪtə/ *noun*, *pl* **-tors** [*count*] : a person who changes words written in one language into a different language • a well-known *translator* of ancient Greek • She works as a *translator* for the government. — compare INTERPRETER

trans·lit·er·ate /træns'litə'reɪt/ *verb* **-ates; -at-ed; -at-ing** [+ *obj*] : to write words or letters in the characters of another alphabet • The Russian letter Я is usually *transliterated* in English as *ya* or *ia*.

– **trans-lit-er-a-tion** /træns,lɪtə'reɪʃən/ *noun*, *pl* -tions
[*count*, *noncount*]

trans-lu-cent /træns'lu:snt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not completely clear or transparent but clear enough to allow light to pass through • Frosted glass is *translucent*. • *translucent* gemstones — compare OPAQUE

– **trans-lu-cence** /træns'lu:sns/ or **trans-lu-cen-cy** /træns'lu:snsi/ *noun* [*noncount*] • Quartz has a high degree of *translucency*.

trans-mi-gra-tion /,træns,mɑ'greɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the movement of a soul into another body after death • a belief in *transmigration*

trans-mis-si-ble /træns'mɪsəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : able to be spread to other people, animals, etc. : capable of being transmitted • *transmissible* diseases/infections • The virus is highly *transmissible* to/among humans.

trans-mis-sion /træns'mɪʃən/ *noun*, *pl* -sions

1 **a** [*noncount*] : the act or process of sending electrical signals to a radio, television, computer, etc. • The equipment is used for the *transmission* of television signals. • data *transmission* **b** [*count*] : something (such as a message or broadcast) that is transmitted to a radio, television, etc. • a fax *transmission* • We are receiving a live *transmission* from the scene of the accident.

2 [*noncount*] : the act or process by which something is spread or passed from one person or thing to another • the *transmission* of disease • the *transmission* of knowledge from one generation to the next

3 : the part of a vehicle that uses the power produced by the engine to turn the wheels [*count*] My car has a manual *transmission*. [*noncount*] This car comes with automatic *transmission*. — see picture at CAR

trans-mit /træns'mɪt/ *verb* -mits; -mit-ted; -mit-ting

1 : to send (information, sound, etc.) in the form of electrical signals to a radio, television, computer, etc. [+ *obj*] The technology allows data to be *transmitted* by cellular phones. • *transmitting* and receiving radio signals [*no obj*] The radio *transmits* on two different frequencies.

2 [+ *obj*] : to give or pass (information, values, etc.) from one person to another • the different ways that people *transmit* their values/opinions/knowledge

3 [+ *obj*] : to cause (a virus, disease, etc.) to be given to others • insects that *transmit* diseases • The disease is *transmitted* by sexual contact.

4 [+ *obj*] : to allow (light, heat, etc.) to pass through • Glass *transmits* light.

– **trans-mit-ta-ble** /træns'mɪtəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] • *transmittable* [=transmissible] diseases

trans-mit-ter /træns'mɪtə, 'trænz,mɪtə/ *noun*, *pl* -ters
[*count*]

1 : a device that sends out radio or television signals

2 : a person or thing that causes something to be spread or transmitted to others • Mosquitoes are the main *transmitters* of the disease. • a *transmitter* of tradition

trans-mute /træns'mju:t/ *verb* -mutes; -mut-ed; -mut-ing *formal* : to completely change the form, appearance, or nature of (someone or something) — usually + *into* [+ *obj*] Her art *transmutes* [=transforms] trash *into* a thing of beauty. • The stories of their lives were *transmuted into* works of fiction. [*no obj*] The former criminal had *transmuted into* a national hero.

– **trans-mu-ta-tion** /,træns'mju'teɪʃən/ *noun*, *pl* -tions
[*count*, *noncount*]

trans-na-tion-al /,træns'næʃən/ *adj* : operating in or involving more than one country • *transnational* corporations • *transnational* crime

trans-oce-an-ic /,træns,ouʃi'ænik/ *adj* : crossing the ocean • *transoceanic* flights — compare TRANSATLANTIC, TRANSPACIFIC

tran-som /'trænsəm/ *noun*, *pl* -soms [*count*]

1 *US* : a small window that is above a door or larger window — called also (*Brit*) *fan light*

2 : a stone or wooden bar that goes across the top of a door or window

over the transom *US* : without being asked for or expected — used especially to describe a book, story, etc., that is sent to a publisher • The manuscript arrived *over the transom*.

trans-pa-cif-ic /,træns'pə'sɪfɪk/ *adj*

1 : crossing the Pacific Ocean • *transpacific* ocean liners

2 : of, relating to, or involving countries on both sides of the Pacific Ocean • *transpacific* trade

trans-par-en-cy /træns'perənsi/ *noun*, *pl* -cies

1 [*noncount*] : the quality of being transparent: such as **a** : the quality that makes it possible to see through something • the *transparency* of a piece of glass **b** : the quality that makes something obvious or easy to understand • the *transparency* of their motives • He says that there needs to be more *transparency* in the way the government operates.

2 [*count*] : a piece of thin, clear plastic with pictures or words printed on it that can be viewed on a large screen by shining light through it • The professor used *transparencies* and an overhead projector during her lectures.

trans-par-ent /træns'perənt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : able to be seen through • *transparent* plastic bags • *transparent* [=clear] glass

2 **a** : easy to notice or understand : OBVIOUS • a *transparent* lie/falsehood • Their motives were *transparent*. **b** : honest and open : not secretive • The company's business dealings need to be more *transparent*. [=information about the company needs to be more available for people to see]

– **trans-par-ent-ly** *adv* • a *transparently* silly excuse

tran-spire /træn'spaɪə/ *verb* -spires; -spired; -spir-ing

1 [*no obj*] *formal* : to happen • They wouldn't say what had *transpired* [=taken place] at the meeting. • No one will soon forget the historic events that *transpired* on that day.

2 [*no obj*] *formal* : to become known — usually used with *it* • Her name, *it transpired*, was false. [=less formally] it turned out that her name was false] • *It transpired* that they had met previously. [=we found out that they had met previously]

3 *technical, of a plant* : to have water evaporate from the surface of leaves [*no obj*] A plant *transpires* more freely on a hot dry day. [+ *obj*] Trees *transpire* water at a rapid rate.

¹**trans-plant** /,træns'plænt/ *verb* -plants; -plant-ed; -plant-ing

1 : to remove (a plant) from the ground or from a pot and move it to another place [+ *obj*] She carefully *transplanted* the seedlings. • The bush was *transplanted* to a different part of the garden. [*no obj*] This plant does not *transplant* well. [=this plant does not grow well if you transplant it]

2 [+ *obj*] *medical* : to perform a medical operation in which an organ or other part that has been removed from the body of one person is put it into the body of another person • Doctors *transplanted* one of his kidneys into his sister. • a recipient of a *transplanted* heart

3 : to move (a person or animal) to a new home : RELOCATE [+ *obj*] The group *transplanted* the beavers to another part of the state. [*no obj*] She is a New Yorker who recently *transplanted* to the West Coast.

– **trans-plan-ta-tion** /,træns,plæn'teɪʃən/ *noun*, *pl* -tions
[*count*, *noncount*]

²**trans-plant** /'træns,plænt/ *noun*, *pl* -plants

1 *medical* **a** : a medical operation in which an organ or other part is removed from the body of one person and put into the body of another person [*count*] The heart *transplant* was successful. • He is going to need a liver *transplant*. [*noncount*] The doctors are trying to keep him alive until a liver can be found for *transplant*. • *transplant* patients/recipients

b [*count*] : an organ, piece of skin, etc., that is transplanted • The patient's body rejected the *transplant*. • She received a bone marrow *transplant* from an unknown donor.

2 [*count*] : a person who has moved to a new home especially in a different region or country • She's a Southern *transplant* who now lives in New York.

trans-pon-der /træn'spɑ:ndə/ *noun*, *pl* -ders [*count*] *technical* : a device that receives a radio signal and sends out a signal in response and that is used especially to show the location of something (such as an airplane)

¹**trans-port** /,træns'po:t/ *verb* -ports; -port-ed; -port-ing
[+ *obj*]

1 : to carry (someone or something) from one place to another • A van at the hotel *transports* guests to and from the airport. • the cost of producing and *transporting* goods • The melons are *transported* in large wooden crates. • The illness was first *transported* across the ocean by European explorers.

2 **a** : to cause (someone) to imagine that he or she is in a different place or time • The movie *transports* us to a world of stunning beauty. • While reading, I was *transported* back to the year 1492. **b** *literary* : to cause (someone) to feel very happy, interested, or excited — usually used as (*be*) *transported* • We were *transported* by the music.

3 *in the past* : to send (a criminal) to live in a distant country as a form of punishment • He was *transported* for stealing.

— **trans-port-able** /ˌtrænsˈpɔːtəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] • easily *transportable* goods

²**trans-port** /ˈtrænsˌpɔːt/ *noun, pl -ports*

1 [*noncount*] : the act or process of moving people or things from one place to another : TRANSPORTATION • the *transport* of manufactured goods

2 [*count*] **a** : a ship that is made for carrying soldiers or military equipment • a troop *transport* **b** : an airplane that is used to carry people or goods • an executive jet *transport* • supersonic *transports*

3 [*noncount*] *chiefly Brit* : TRANSPORTATION 2 • I was left without *transport* when the car broke down. • She relies on public *transport*.

4 [*count*] *literary* : a strong or extremely pleasant emotion — usually plural • The news sent them into *transports* of joy. [=the news made them extremely happy]

trans-por-ta-tion /ˌtrænsˌpɔːˈteɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 *chiefly US* : the act or process of moving people or things from one place to another • the *transportation* of troops overseas • She arranged for the *transportation* of her furniture to her new apartment.

2 *chiefly US* **a** : a way of traveling from one place to another place • I was left without *transportation* [= (*chiefly Brit*) *transport*] when the car broke down. • modern *air transportation* [=travel in airplanes, helicopters, etc.] • The hotel offers free *ground transportation* to and from the airport. [=the hotel has vehicles that will take you to and from the airport for free] **b** : a system for moving passengers or goods from one place to another • high speed rail *transportation* • He was the U.S. Secretary of *Transportation* under President Reagan. • You can go almost anywhere in New York City using *public transportation*. [=a system of trains, buses, etc., that is paid for or run by the government]

3 : a method of punishment used in the past especially in Britain in which criminals were sent to live in a distant country

transport café *noun, pl ~ cafés* [*count*] *Brit* : TRUCK STOP

trans-port-er /trænsˈpɔːtə/ *noun, pl -ers* [*count*] : something that is used to move or transport people or things; *especially, chiefly Brit* : a vehicle for carrying large and heavy loads • a car *transporter*

trans-pose /trænsˈpəʊz/ *verb -pos-es; -posed; -pos-ing* [+ *obj*]

1 : to change the position or order of (two things) • I must have accidentally *transposed* the numbers when I dialed his phone number.

2 : to change (something) by giving it a different form, using it in a different place or situation, etc. • a story originally set in London that has been *transposed* to Paris for this film

3 *music* : to write or perform (a piece of music) in a different key • a melody *transposed* to the key of C

— **trans-po-si-tion** /ˌtrænsˌpəˈziʃən/ *noun, pl -tions* [*count, noncount*]

trans-sex-u-al /trænsˈsɛkʃəwəl/ *noun, pl -als* [*count*] : a person who tries to look, dress, and act like a member of the opposite sex; *especially* : someone who medically changes himself or herself into a member of the opposite sex — compare TRANSVESTITE

— **transsexual** *adj* • *transsexual* issues — **trans-sex-u-al-ism** /trænsˈsɛkʃəwəlɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*]

tran-sub-stan-ti-a-tion /ˌtrænsəbˌstænʃiˈeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the belief in some Christian religions that the bread and wine given at Communion become the body and blood of Jesus Christ when they are blessed

trans-verse /trænsˈvɜːs/ *adj, technical* : lying or made across something • The surgeon made a *transverse* incision across her abdomen.

— **trans-verse-ly** *adv* • cut *transversely* into sections

trans-ves-tite /trænsˈvɛstɪt/ *noun, pl -tites* [*count*] : a person who likes to dress like a person of the opposite sex • *transvestites* dressed in drag — compare TRANSSEXUAL

— **trans-ves-tism** /trænsˈvɛstɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*]

— **transvestite** *adj* • a *transvestite* magazine/show

¹**trap** /ˈtræp/ *noun, pl traps* [*count*]

1 : a device that is used for catching animals • They set *traps* to catch the mice. • a bear/lobster *trap* • She has a mind like a steel *trap*. [=she remembers everything] — see also MOUSE-TRAP

2 **a** : something that is used or done to stop or capture someone (such as a criminal) • The police are laying/setting a *trap* to catch him. • The soldiers had walked/stumbled into a

trap. **b** : a situation in which someone is tricked into doing or saying something • Credit card companies were accused of laying/setting *traps* for consumers. [=tricking consumers] — see also SPEED TRAP **c** : a bad position or situation from which it is difficult to escape • a mental/theoretical *trap* • Many new businesses fail because they try to expand too quickly, but we have so far managed to avoid that *trap*. • They tended to view marriage as a *trap*. • Don't *fall into the trap* of believing that technology can solve all our problems. — see also POVERTY TRAP

3 *US, golf* : SAND TRAP

4 *slang* : MOUTH • Can he *keep his trap shut* about it? [=can he be trusted not to tell anyone about it?] • *Shut your trap!* I've heard enough!

5 *US, technical* : a bend in a pipe that contains water and that prevents gas from passing through the pipe • a *plumbing trap* — called also (*Brit*) *U-bend*; see picture at PLUMBING

6 : a light carriage that is usually pulled by one horse • a horse and *trap*

spring a trap see ²SPRING

— see also BOOBY TRAP, DEATH TRAP, TOURIST TRAP

²**trap** *verb traps; trapped; trap-ping* [+ *obj*]

1 : to catch (an animal) in a trap • *trapping* mice • They *trapped* the bear and relocated it to another forest.

2 : to force (a person or animal) into a place or position from which escape is very difficult or impossible • The police *trapped* [=cornered] the robber in an alley.

3 **a** : to cause (a person or animal) to be unable to move or escape from a dangerous place • A tree fell in front of the door and *trapped* the people inside. — usually used as (*be*) *trapped* • They *were trapped* and couldn't get out. • She *was trapped* in the elevator for more than an hour. **b** : to force (someone) to stay in a bad or unpleasant situation — + *in* • He felt *trapped in* his marriage. • people *trapped in* low-paying jobs

4 : to fool or trick (someone) into doing or saying something • The lawyer tried to *trap* the witness into admitting that she had lied.

5 : to stop (something) from escaping or being lost • Greenhouse gases *trap* heat inside the Earth's atmosphere.

6 *Brit* : to cause (something, such as a part of your body) to become stuck and unable to move • She *trapped* [= (US) *caught, pinched*] her finger in the door.

7 *baseball* : to catch (the ball) immediately after it bounces off the ground • The outfielder *trapped* the ball.

trap-door /ˈtræpˈdɔː/ *noun, pl -doors* [*count*] : a door that covers or hides an opening in a floor or ceiling

tra-pe-ze /træˈpiːz/ *noun, pl -pez-es* [*count*] : a short bar that is hung high above the ground by two ropes and that is held by circus performers who perform athletic tricks on it • performing tricks on the *trapeze* • a *trapeze* artist/act

tra-pe-zi-um /træˈpiːzɪjəm/ *noun, pl -zi-ums or -zia* /-zɪjə/ [*count*] *geometry*

1 *US* : a four-sided shape that has no parallel sides — called also (*Brit*) *trapezoid*

2 *Brit* : TRAPEZOID 1

trap-e-zoid /ˈtræpəˌzɔɪd/ *noun, pl -zoids* [*count*] *geometry*

1 *US* : a four-sided shape that has two sides that are parallel and two sides that are not parallel — called also (*Brit*) *trapezium*

2 *Brit* : TRAPEZIUM 1

— **trap-e-zoi-dal** /ˌtræpəˈzɔɪdəl/ *adj* • a *trapezoidal* shape

trap-per /ˈtræpə/ *noun, pl -pers* [*count*] : someone who catches animals in traps; *especially* : someone who catches wild animals in traps and kills them for their fur • 18th-century Canadian fur *trappers*

trap-pings /ˈtræpɪnz/ *noun* [*plural*] : the objects, activities, etc., that are associated with a particular condition, situation, or position in life : the visible signs of something • Despite its democratic *trappings*, the country's government was a dictatorship. — often + *of* • She had lots of money and enjoyed all the *trappings* of success/wealth.

¹**trash** /ˈtræʃ/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 *US* **a** : things that are no longer useful or wanted and that have been thrown away • *Trash* [=rubbish] was strewn throughout the yard. • Take out the *trash*, please. • Raccoons were going through our *trash*. [=garbage] **b** : a container where people put things that are being thrown away • I put/threw the dirty diaper in the *trash*.

2 *informal* : something that is very low in quality • There's nothing but *trash* [=rubbish] on TV these days. • I can't believe you're reading that *trash*.

- 3** chiefly US, informal + disapproving : someone who has very low social status or who is not respected • She thinks that they're all *trash*. • They treated him like *trash*. [=treated him very badly] — see also TRAILER TRASH, WHITE TRASH
- talk trash** US, informal : to say insulting things especially to an opponent in a contest, game, etc. • Players on both teams were *talking trash*. — see also TRASH TALK
- 2** **trash** verb **trash-es; trashed; trash-ing** [+ obj] informal
- 1** US : to throw away (something) • a computer program that *trashes* useless files • The vacuum cleaner couldn't be fixed, so I *trashed* it.
- 2** : to cause great damage to (something) • The apartment had been *trashed*. • He says that the government's policies are *trashing* the environment.
- 3** : to criticize (someone or something) very harshly • The critics *trashed* [= (Brit) *rubbished*] the new film.
- trash can** noun, pl ~ **cans** [count] US : a container that holds materials that have been thrown away — called also (Brit) *dustbin*, (Brit) *litter bin*
- trashed** adj [more ~; most ~] US, informal : very drunk • By the end of the party he was completely *trashed*.
- trashman** noun, pl **-men** [count] US : a person who collects and removes trash
- trash talk** noun [noncount] US, informal : insulting comments that are made especially to an opponent in a contest, game, etc. • He had to listen to a lot of *trash talk* from the other players. — see also *talk trash* at **1** TRASH
- **trash-talk** /'træʃ,tɑ:k/ verb **-talks; -talked; -talk-ing** [no obj] They *trash-talked* throughout the game. [+ obj] He's always *trash-talking* the other players. — **trash-talk-er** /'træʃ,tɑ:kə/ noun, pl **-ers** [count] — **trash-talking** noun [noncount] • There was a lot of *trash-talking* going on throughout the game.
- trashy** /'træʃi/ adj **trash-i-er; -est** informal + disapproving
- 1** : not decent or respectable : involving improper behavior • *trashy* films/novels • *trashy* women • Her outfit was a bit *trashy*.
- 2** : very low in quality • *trashy* television programs • a *trashy* amusement park
- **trash-i-ness** noun [noncount]
- trau·ma** /'trɑ:mə/ noun, pl **-mas**
- 1** : a very difficult or unpleasant experience that causes someone to have mental or emotional problems usually for a long time [count] She never fully recovered from the *trauma* she suffered during her childhood. [noncount] She never fully recovered from the *trauma* of her experiences.
- 2** medical : a serious injury to a person's body [noncount] an accident victim with severe head *trauma* • repeated *trauma* to a knee [count] The accident victim sustained multiple *traumas*. — see also *blunt trauma* at **1** BLUNT
- trauma center** (US) or Brit **trauma centre** noun, pl ~ **-ters** [count] : a part of a hospital that is specially prepared to perform emergency surgery on people with severe injuries
- trau·mat·ic** /trə'mætɪk/ adj [more ~; most ~]
- 1** : causing someone to become very upset in a way that can lead to serious mental and emotional problems • She had a *traumatic* childhood. • a *traumatic* event/experience • Losing your job can be very *traumatic*. — see also POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER
- 2** medical : related to or caused by a severe injury to your body • He suffered a *traumatic* brain injury in the accident.
- **trau·mat·i·cal·ly** /trə'mætɪkli/ adv
- trau·ma·tize** also Brit **trau·ma·tise** /'trɑ:mə,təɪz/ verb **-tiz-es; -tized; -tiz-ing** [+ obj] : to cause (someone) to become very upset in a way that often leads to serious emotional problems : to cause (someone) to suffer emotional trauma • He was *traumatized* by the experience.
- tra·vail** /trə'veɪl/ noun, pl **-vails**
- 1** [count] formal : a difficult experience or situation — usually plural • The book describes the political *travails* of the President during his first year in office.
- 2** [noncount] literary : painful or difficult work or effort • They finally succeeded after many months of *travail*.
- 1** **trav·el** /'trævəl/ verb **-els; US -eled or Brit -elled; US -el-ing or Brit -el-ling**
- 1** a [no obj] : to go on a trip or journey : to go to a place and especially one that is far away • The birds are *traveling* south for the winter. • His job requires him to *travel* frequently. • She enjoys *traveling* around Europe. • *traveling* by bus/car/plane/train • They *traveled* cross-country from New York to California. • I prefer to *travel light* [=to travel with very little baggage] — often used figuratively • My mind *traveled* back

to my childhood. [=I began thinking about my childhood] **b** [+ obj] : to go through or over (a place) during a trip or journey • They *traveled* the countryside.

2 [no obj] **a** : to move from one place to another • The car was *traveling* at a very high (rate of) speed. • The pain *traveled* down his back. • the way that sound *travels* in an empty room • Her eyes *traveled* around the room. [=she looked around the room] **b** informal : to go fast • That car was really *traveling* when it passed us.

3 [no obj] : to be brought from one place to another • The order/shipment is *traveling* by plane. • a dish that *travels* well [=that is easily moved and does not break, make messes, etc.]

4 [no obj] : to spread or be passed from one place or person to another • The news of his death *traveled* fast.

5 [no obj] : to spend time with a particular group or kind of people • She *travels* in conservative political circles. • He *traveled* with a sophisticated crowd.

6 [no obj] **basketball** : to take more steps while holding a basketball than the rules allow • I saw him *travel*. • The referee called her for *traveling*.

2 **travel** noun, pl **-els**

1 [noncount] : the act or activity of traveling • She doesn't enjoy foreign *travel*. • Air *travel* was affected by the storm. • train/rail *travel* • The book discusses the future of *travel* in outer space. — often used before another noun • *travel* books • *travel* costs/expenses • a *travel* bag/mug [=a bag/mug that is designed to be used while you are traveling]

2 **travels** [plural] : trips or journeys to distant places • We extended our *travels* for another week. • *travels* in foreign lands

travel agency noun, pl ~ **-cies** [count] : a business that helps to make arrangements for people who want to travel

travel agent noun, pl ~ **agents** [count] : a person whose job is to help people who want to travel by buying plane tickets, making hotel reservations, etc.

trav·eled (US) or Brit **trav·elled** /'trævəld/ adj [more ~; most ~]

1 : having traveled to many different places • a well/widely *traveled* journalist

2 : used by travelers • a well *traveled* road [=a busy road, a road on which there is a lot of traffic] • less *traveled* streets

trav·el·er (US) or Brit **trav·el·ler** /'trævələ/ noun, pl **-ers** [count]

1 : someone who is traveling or who travels often • Groups of *travelers* were everywhere that summer. • The airport can handle large numbers of *travelers*. • a seasoned *traveler*

2 Brit : a person who moves around from place to place instead of living in one place for a long time

traveler's check (US) or Brit **traveller's cheque** noun, pl ~ **checks** [count] : a check that is paid for in advance and that may be exchanged for or used like cash

trav·el·ing (US) or Brit **trav·el·ling** /'trævəlɪŋ/ adj, always used before a noun

1 : going to different places instead of staying in one place • a troupe of *traveling* actors • a *traveling* circus • a *traveling* exhibit

2 **a** : relating to the activity of traveling • *traveling* expenses

b : designed to be used by someone who is traveling • a *traveling* alarm clock **c** : going with someone who is traveling • a *traveling* companion [=a person who goes with you when you travel somewhere]

traveling salesman (US) or Brit **travelling salesman** noun, pl ~ **-men** [count] : a person whose job is to travel to different places in a particular area and to sell products or get orders from customers

trav·el·ogue also US **trav·el·og** /'trævə,lɑ:g/ noun, pl **-ogues** also **-ogs** [count] : a speech, movie, or piece of writing about someone's experiences while traveling

travel sickness noun [noncount] Brit : MOTION SICKNESS

— **travel-sick** adj

tra·verse /trə'vəs/ verb **-vers-es; -versed; -vers-ing** [+ obj] somewhat formal : to move across (an area) • The candidate *traversed* the state throughout the campaign. • ships *traversing* the ocean • The river *traverses* the county.

— **tra·verse** /'trævəs, trə'vəs/ noun, pl **-vers-es** [count] • The climbers made a dangerous *traverse* across the glacier.

trav·er·tine /'trævə,tɪ:n/ noun [noncount] : a light-colored type of rock that is used especially in buildings • *travertine* tile/floors

trav·es·ty /'trævəsti/ noun, pl **-ties** [count] : something that is shocking, upsetting, or ridiculous because it is not what it is supposed to be • It is a *travesty* and a tragedy that so many people would be denied the right to vote. • The investigation

into the causes of the accident was a complete *travesty*. [=sham] • The trial was a *travesty of justice*.

¹**trawl** /'tra:l/ *noun, pl trawls* [count] : a large net that a boat pulls along the bottom of the ocean to catch fish

²**trawl** *verb* **trawls; trawled; trawling**

1 : to catch fish with a large net (called a trawl) [no obj] The boat *trawled* far out at sea. [+ obj] a fishing boat *trawling* the ocean floor

2 : to search through (something) in order to find someone or something [+ obj] He *trawled* the Internet looking for Web sites on growing grapes. [no obj] She was *trawling* through old letters for information about her family.

trawl-er /'tra:lə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count] : a boat that is used for catching fish with a large net (called a trawl)

tray /'trei/ *noun, pl trays* [count]

1 : a thin, flat, and often rectangular piece of plastic, metal, wood, etc., that has a low rim and that is used for carrying things • She carried the *tray* of food to our table. — see also TEA TRAY

2 : a container that has low sides and usually no top and that is used to hold something • a car with several storage *trays* • (Brit) a litter *tray* [= (US) box; a container for holding litter for a cat] • an ice cube *tray* [= a container used to make ice cubes] • a seedling *tray* [= a container in which young plants are grown] — see also ASHTRAY, IN TRAY, OUT TRAY

treach-er-ous /'treʃərəs/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : not able to be trusted • a *treacherous* ally/enemy : showing that someone cannot be trusted • a *treacherous* act of betrayal • *treacherous* misdeeds

2 : very dangerous and difficult to deal with • sailing through *treacherous* waters • They were not prepared to hike over such *treacherous* terrain. • The snow made their hike all the more *treacherous*. • Discussions about money can lead couples into *treacherous* territory.

— **treach-er-ous-ly** *adv*

treach-ery /'treʃəri/ *noun, pl -er-ies*

1 [noncount] : harmful things that are done usually secretly to a friend, your own country, etc. • a tale of *treachery* and revenge

2 [count] : an act of harming someone who trusts you • She was deeply hurt by her husband's *treacheries*. [=her husband's treacherous acts]

treacle /'tri:kəl/ *noun* [noncount]

1 *Brit* **a** : MOLASSES **b** : a blend of molasses, sugar, and corn syrup

2 : something that is annoying because it is too sentimental • The book is ruined by all the *treacle* about his childhood.

— **treacly** /'tri:kəli/ *adj* **treacly** **treacly-er; -est** [also more ~; most ~] • dark, *treacly* syrup • a *treacly* greeting card

¹**tread** /'tred/ *verb* **treads; trod** /'tra:d/ *also tread-ed; trodden* /'tra:dn/ *or trod; tread-ing*

1 [no obj] : to walk • They slowly *trod* back to the camp. • Don't *tread* on the grass. — often used figuratively • He has gone *where others fear to tread*. [=he has done things that other people are afraid to do] • If you're thinking about asking for a raise, I advise you to *tread lightly*. [=to proceed carefully]

2 [+ obj] : to walk on or along (something) • *treading* the halls of the Senate — often used figuratively • The company is *treading* a fine line between tradition and innovation.

3 [+ obj] : to form (a path) by walking • Countless footsteps have *trodden* a path to their door.

4 [+ obj] : to crush or press (something) with your feet • Don't *tread* dirt into the carpet. • *treading* grapes for wine

tread on someone's toes see ¹TOE

tread the boards old-fashioned : to perform on a stage as an actor • It's been many years since he first *trod the boards* on Broadway.

tread water 1 : to float upright in deep water by moving your legs and usually your arms forward and backward 2 : to stay in a situation without making any progress • I'm just *treading water* financially right now.

²**tread** *noun, pl treads* [count]

1 **a** : the part of a tire that touches the ground : the pattern of raised lines on the surface of a tire • The *treads* of the tires were badly worn. **b** : a mark made by a tire when it rolls over the ground • The police found tire *treads* [=tracks] in the mud. — see also RETREAD

2 : the part of a shoe or boot that touches the ground : the pattern of raised lines on the bottom of a shoe or boot • running shoes with good *treads*

3 : the part of a stair that you step on

4 : the way that someone walks or the sound made by walking • a light/heavy *tread* [=step]

treacle /'tredl/ *noun, pl treacles* [count] : a small, flat bar that you press with your foot to operate a machine (such as a pump or sewing machine)

tread-mill /'tred,mil/ *noun, pl -mills*

1 [count] : an exercise machine which has a large belt that moves around while a person walks or runs on it — see picture at GYM

2 [singular] : a boring or tiring activity, job, etc., in which you repeatedly do the same things • the office *treadmill* • the *treadmill* of exhausting family schedules

treason /'tri:zn/ *noun* [noncount] : the crime of trying to overthrow your country's government or of helping your country's enemies during war • He is guilty of *treason*. — called also *high treason*

— **treason-able** /'tri:zənəbəl/ *adj* • *treasonable* acts — **treason-ous** /'tri:zənəs/ *adj* • *treasonous* [=traitorous] behavior

¹**treasure** /'treʒə/ *noun, pl -sures*

1 [noncount] : something valuable (such as money, jewels, gold, or silver) that is hidden or kept in a safe place • a legend about the pirates' buried/sunken/hidden *treasure* • the royal *treasure*

2 [count] : something that is very special, important, or valuable • childhood *treasures* [=things that are important to you because you had them when you were a child] • Central Park is one of New York City's many *treasures*. • The panda is considered one of China's *national treasures*. [=something that is greatly valued by the people of China]

3 [singular] : a person who is greatly loved or valued especially because of being very helpful • Grandmother's nurse has been a real *treasure*.

²**treasure** *verb* **treasures; treasured; treasure-ing** [+ obj] : to value (something) very much • I *treasure* our friendship. • He *treasures* that autographed baseball. • My grandmother's ring is my most *treasured* possession. *synonyms* see APPRECIATE

treasure chest *noun, pl ~ chests* [count] : a large box that is filled with gold, silver, jewels, etc. — often used figuratively • The house is a *treasure chest* filled with artifacts from a bygone era.

treasure house *noun, pl ~ houses* [count] : a place where there are many valuable things — often + of • The city is a *treasure house of art*. [=there are many works of art in the city] • Books are *treasure houses of knowledge*.

treasure hunt *noun, pl ~ hunts* [count]

1 : an act of searching for treasure • The adventurers set sail on a *treasure hunt*. — sometimes used figuratively • a *treasure hunt* at one of the city's flea markets

2 : a game in which each player or team tries to be the first to find an object or group of objects that have been hidden

— **treasure hunter** *noun, pl ~ -ers* [count]

treasurer /'treʒərə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count] : someone who is officially in charge of the money that is taken in and paid out by a government, business, organization, etc. • She is *treasurer* of the college/museum/company.

treasure trove *noun, pl ~ troves* [count]

1 : a collection of valuable things (such as gold and silver coins or jewels) found in a place where it was hidden, buried, etc. • Divers found a *treasure trove* of gold and silver in the wreckage of a ship that sank hundreds of years ago.

2 : a source or collection of valuable things — usually + of • The area is a *treasure trove of fossils*. [=the area has a very large number of fossils] • The book is a *treasure trove of useful information*.

treasury /'treʒəri/ *noun, pl -sur-ies* [count]

1 : the place where the money of a government, club, etc., is kept • A government official has been accused of stealing from the nation's *treasury*. • The fees are deposited into the state's *treasury*. • How much (money) is in the club's *treasury*?; also : the money itself • A part of the nation's *treasury* is spent on space exploration.

2 : a place in a church, castle, palace, etc., where money and valuable objects are kept

3 : a group of valuable things that are related in some way • a *treasury* of ideas • The author has collected a *treasury* of facts and lore about horses. — used especially in the titles of books • The Horse Lover's *Treasury*

the Treasury : the government department that is in charge of handling a country's money • the U.S. Secretary of *the Treasury* — often used as *Treasury* before another noun •

Treasury bills/bonds/securities • *Treasury* officials • the *Treasury* Secretary — called also *the Treasury Department*

¹treat /'tri:t/ *verb* **treats; treat-ed; treat-ing**

1 *always followed by an adverb or preposition [+ obj]* : to deal with or think about (something) especially in a particular way • The author *treats* this issue in the next chapter. • You should *treat* [=consider, regard] this information as top secret. • He *treats* [=regards] everything I say as a joke. • This situation must be *treated* with great care.

2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition [+ obj]* : to think of and act toward (someone or something) in a specified way • I try to *treat* everyone equally. • She *treats* the horse cruelly. • They *treated* me like a member of their family. • I was *treated* like a queen/criminal. • My parents still *treat* me like a child. • Try to *treat* everyone as an equal. • Young people should always *treat* their elders with respect. • He *treated me like dirt* [=he was very rude, disrespectful, or unkind to me]

3 a : to pay for someone's food, drink, or entertainment [*no obj*] Let's go out to dinner. I'll *treat*. [*+ obj*] — usually + *to* • They *treated us to* lunch. **b** [*+ obj*] : to provide (someone) with something pleasant or amusing — + *to* • At the end of the concert, the band *treated* their fans *to* a new song. — often used as (*be*) *treated* • The people on the tour *were treated to* a rare glimpse of the bird. [=the people on the tour had the rare and enjoyable experience of seeing the bird] **c** [*+ obj*] : to buy or get something special and enjoyable for (yourself) — + *to* • He *treated himself to* some ice cream. • She *treated herself to* a massage.

4 [*+ obj*] **a** : to give medical care to (a person or animal) • Doctors immediately *treated* the patient. • She was *treated* for dehydration. **b** : to deal with (a disease, infection, etc.) in order to make someone feel better or become healthy again • She is taking medication to *treat* the condition. • The infection can be *treated* with antibiotics.

5 [*+ obj*] : to put a chemical or other substance on or in (something) in order to protect it, preserve it, clean it, etc. — often + *with* • He *treated* the wood *with* a waterproof sealant. — often used as (*be*) *treated* • The crops *were treated with* a pesticide. • Has the water *been treated*?

²treat *noun, pl treats* [*count*]

1 : an occurrence in which you pay for someone's food, drink, or entertainment • Let's go out to dinner. It'll be my *treat*. [=I will pay for our dinners] — see also DUTCH TREAT, TRICK OR TREAT

2 : something pleasant or amusing that is unusual or unexpected • Seeing her again was a real *treat*. = It was a real *treat* to see her again. • We took the kids to the water park as a special *treat*.

3 US : something that tastes good and that is not eaten often • freshly baked *treats* [=goodies] • cookies and other tasty *treats* • She rewarded the dog with a *treat*.

a treat *Brit, informal* : very well • The plan *worked a treat* • The food *went down a treat* [=tasted very good] : very good • He *looks a treat* [=he is handsome, attractive, etc.] in his new suit.

treat-able /'tri:təbəl/ *adj, medical* : capable of being improved or cured with medical care • Her condition is *treat-able*. • a *treatable* disease • The infection is *treatable* with antibiotics.

trea-tise /'tri:təs/ *noun, pl -tis-es* [*count*] : a book, article, etc., that discusses a subject carefully and thoroughly — often + *on* • a *treatise on* higher education

treat-ment /'tri:tmənt/ *noun, pl -ments*

1 [*noncount*] : the way that you think of and act toward someone or something • We don't deserve such rude *treatment*. [=we don't deserve to be treated so rudely] • The principal's daughter received special/preferential *treatment* from teachers. [=teachers were kinder to and less strict with the principal's daughter than with other students] • We want to ensure equal *treatment* for everyone. • The law requires humane *treatment* of prisoners. — see also SILENT TREATMENT

2 a [*noncount*] : the way that you deal with or discuss a subject • It's a complicated issue that requires careful *treatment*. • A five-minute news report on the subject does not allow for depth of *treatment*. [=does not allow the subject to be dealt with in a way that is complete, thorough, etc.] • The book's *treatment* of this important issue is unimpressive. **b** [*count*] : something that deals with or discusses a subject • Previous *treatments* of this topic have ignored some key issues. • an interesting *treatment*

3 : something that deals with a disease, injury, etc., in order to make someone feel better or become healthy again : med-

ical care [*noncount*] The patient required immediate medical *treatment*. • She is receiving *treatment* for cancer. • a *treatment* facility [=a place where you can get medical care] [*count*] The drug has been approved as a *treatment* for AIDS. • cancer *treatments*

4 [*count*] : something that you use or do to feel and look healthy or attractive • Mud is sometimes used as a skin *treatment*. • She went to a spa for a beauty *treatment*.

5 : a process in which a chemical or other substance is put on or in something in order to protect it, preserve it, clean it, etc. [*count*] A special *treatment* is used to kill bacteria in water. • This *treatment* will protect the wood from rotting. [*noncount*] The instruments are sterilized by *treatment* with alcohol. • a waste/sewage *treatment* plant

trea-ty /'tri:ti/ *noun, pl -ties* [*count*] : an official agreement that is made between two or more countries or groups • the *Treaty* of Paris • a nuclear test ban *treaty* • The country's warring factions have signed a *peace treaty*. [=an agreement to stop fighting a war]

¹tre-ble /'trebəl/ *noun, pl tre-bles* *music*

1 : the highest range of sounds used in music [*noncount*] Turn down the *treble* on the radio and turn up the bass. [*count*] a shrill *treble* — compare BASS

2 [*count*] : a voice or instrument that has the highest range of sound • The part is sung by a boy *treble*.

²treble *adj*

1 *always used before a noun, music* : having or indicating a high sound or range • the *treble* clef • a *treble* voice/instrument

2 *chiefly Brit* : ³TRIPLE

³treble *verb* **trebles; tre-bled; tre-bling** *chiefly Brit*

1 [*+ obj*] : to cause (something) to become three times as great or as many : TRIPLE • She *trebled* her earnings in only two years.

2 [*no obj*] : to become three times as great or as many : TRIPLE • Prices have *trebled* in only two years.

tree /'tri:/ *noun, pl trees* [*count*]

1 : a usually tall plant that has a thick, wooden stem and many large branches • pine/oak/apple *trees* • He chopped/cut down the *tree*. — see color picture on page C6; see also CHRISTMAS TREE, GUM TREE

2 : a drawing that connects things with lines to show how they are related to each other • a *tree* (diagram) that shows the relationships between different languages — see also FAMILY TREE

barking up the wrong tree see ¹BARK

grow on trees see GROW

not see the forest for the trees (US) or *US miss the forest for the trees* or *Brit not see the wood for the trees* : to not understand or appreciate a larger situation, problem, etc., because you are considering only a few parts of it • This investment would be good for the company, but he's so concerned about saving money that he *can't see the forest for the trees*.

out of your tree *informal* : CRAZY • That guy is completely *out of his tree*. [= (more commonly) *out of his mind*]

top of the tree see ¹TOP

— see also SHOE TREE

— **treed** *adj* • a heavily *treed* [=wooded] area [=an area in which there are many trees] — **tree-less** /'tri:ləs/ *adj* • a *treeless* plain — **tree-like** /'tri:lɪk/ *adj* • a *treelike* structure

tree house *noun, pl ~ houses* [*count*] : a small house that is built among the branches of a tree for children to play in

tree hug-ger /-'hægə/ *noun, pl ~ -gers* [*count*] *disapproving* : someone who is regarded as foolish or annoying because of being too concerned about protecting trees, animals, and other parts of the natural world from pollution and other threats

tree line *noun* [*singular*] : TIMBERLINE • The hikers had reached the *tree line* by noon.

tree-lined *adj* : having trees on both sides • a *tree-lined* street

tree-top /'tri:tə:p/ *noun, pl -tops* [*count*] : the highest part of a tree • a view from the highest *treetop* — usually plural • Monkeys swung through the *treetops*.

tre-foil /'tri:fojəl/ *noun, pl -foils* [*count*]

1 : a plant (such as a clover) that has three leaves on each stem

2 : a decorative object or design that is shaped like a leaf with three parts

¹trek /'trek/ *verb* **treks; trekked; trek-king** [*no obj*]

1 : to walk usually for a long distance • We had to *trek* up six flights of stairs with our groceries.

2 : to travel by walking through an area with many mountains, rivers, etc., for pleasure and adventure • On their vacation last year they went *trekking* in the Himalayas.

3 : to go on a long and often difficult journey • We *trekked* across the country in her old car.

2 **trek** *noun, pl treks* [count] : a long and difficult journey that is made especially by walking • Our car broke down and we had a long *trek* back to town. • a *trek* across the country

trellis /ˈtrɛləs/ *noun, pl -lis-es* [count] : a frame with long pieces of wood that cross each other that is used as a support for climbing plants

tremble /ˈtrɛmbəl/ *verb trem-bles; trem-bled; trembling* [no obj]

1 : to shake slightly because you are afraid, nervous, excited, etc. • His arms and legs began to *tremble*. • My voice *trembled* as I began to speak. • I opened the letter with *trembling* hands. — often + *with* • She was *trembling with* fear/excitement.

2 : to shake slightly because of some force • The house *trembled* as the big truck drove by.

3 *somewhat formal* : to be afraid or nervous • I *tremble* to think of what could happen. = I *tremble* at the thought of what could happen.

— **tremble** *noun, pl trembles* [count] — usually singular • I felt a *tremble* as the truck drove by. • I could hear a *tremble* in her voice. — often + *of* • He felt a *tremble of* nervousness.

tremendous /trɪˈmɛndəs/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : very large or great • He has a *tremendous* amount of energy. • a *tremendous* problem • The engine's power is *tremendous*. • She is a writer of *tremendous* talent.

2 : very good or excellent : WONDERFUL • That performance was *tremendous*! • We had a *tremendous* time.

— **tremendously** *adv* • The two cars vary *tremendously*. • He became *tremendously* successful.

tremolo /ˈtrɛməˌloʊ/ *noun, pl -los* [count] *music* : a musical sound made by a voice or instrument that seems to shake

tremor /ˈtrɛmə/ *noun, pl -ors* [count]

1 : a shaking movement of the ground before or after an earthquake • Small *tremors* were still being felt several days after the earthquake.

2 : a slight shaking movement or sound that is caused especially by nervousness, weakness, or illness • I heard a *tremor* in her voice. • His *tremors* were caused by the disease.

tremulous /ˈtrɛmjələs/ *adj, formal + literary*

1 : shaking slightly especially because of nervousness, weakness, or illness • She opened the letter with *tremulous* hands. • He spoke with a *tremulous* voice.

2 [more ~; most ~] : feeling or showing a lack of confidence or courage • He is a shy, *tremulous* [=timid] person. • a *tremulous* smile

— **tremulously** *adv*

trench /ˈtrɛntʃ/ *noun, pl trench-es* [count]

1 a : a long, narrow hole that is dug in the ground : DITCH
b : a deep, narrow hole in the ground that is used as protection for soldiers — usually plural • a brave soldier who fought in the *trenches* in World War I • *trench warfare* [=military fighting by soldiers in trenches]

2 : a long, narrow hole in the ocean floor

the trenches : a place or situation in which people do very difficult work • These people are working every day down *in the trenches* to improve the lives of refugees.

trenchant /ˈtrɛntʃənt/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *formal* : very strong, clear, and effective • a *trenchant* analysis/essay • a writer with a *trenchant* wit

— **trenchantly** *adv* • a *trenchantly* funny critique

trench coat *noun, pl ~ coats* [count] : a usually long raincoat with deep pockets and a belt

trend /ˈtrɛnd/ *noun, pl trends* [count]

1 : a general direction of change : a way of behaving, proceeding, etc., that is developing and becoming more common • the downward/upward *trend* of the stock market • Digital technology is the latest/current *trend* in television. • Teachers are trying to reverse the general *trend* [=tendency] of lower test scores. • There is a disturbing/growing *trend* toward obesity in children. • *trends* in fashion • The director has *set/started a (new) trend* in moviemaking. [=other directors are copying the director's way of making movies]

2 : something that is currently popular or fashionable • fashion *trends*

trend-setter /ˈtrɛndˌsɛtə/ *noun, pl -ters* [count] : someone who starts a new fashion, style, etc., or helps to make it popular

— **trend-setting** /ˈtrɛndˌsɛtɪŋ/ *adj, always used before a noun* • a *trendsetting* fashion designer

1 **trendy** /ˈtrɛndi/ *adj trendy-ier; -est* [also more ~; most ~]

1 *sometimes disapproving* : currently popular or fashionable • *trendy* fashions/clothes/restaurants

2 *often disapproving* : liking or tending to like whatever is currently popular or fashionable : influenced by trends • a group of *trendy* young professionals

— **trendily** /ˈtrɛndəli/ *adv* • She dresses very *trendily*.

— **trendiness** /ˈtrɛndɪnəs/ *noun* [noncount] • He tries to avoid *trendiness* when he buys new clothes.

2 **trendy** *noun, pl trendy-dies* [count] *Brit, informal + disapproving* : someone who likes whatever is fashionable : a trendy person • Only young *trendies* go to that pub.

trepidation /ˌtrɛpəˈdeɪʃən/ *noun* [noncount] *formal* : a feeling of fear that causes you to hesitate because you think something bad or unpleasant is going to happen • He had/felt some *trepidation* about agreeing to their proposal.

1 **trespass** /ˈtrɛˌspæs, Brit ˈtrɛspəs/ *verb -pass-es; -passed; -passing* [no obj]

1 : to go on someone's land without permission • He told me I was *trespassing*. • The sign said "No *Trespassing*." — often + *on* • The hunters *trespassed on* the farmer's land.

2 *old-fashioned* : to do something that hurts or offends someone — usually + *against* • We must try to forgive those who *trespass against* us.

3 *formal* : to treat someone unfairly especially by asking for or expecting more than is fair or reasonable — often + *on* or *upon* • I hope I am not *trespassing on/upon* your time. [=I hope I am not using too much of your time]

— **trespasser** *noun, pl -ers* [count]

2 **trespass** /ˈtrɛspəs/ *noun, pl -pass-es*

1 *law* : the crime of going on someone's land without permission [noncount] He was arrested for *trespass*. [count] They committed a *trespass*.

2 [count] *old-fashioned* : a sin or other wrong or improper act • Forgive us our *trespasses*.

tresses /ˈtrɛsɪz/ *noun* [plural] *literary* : a woman's long hair • She combed her long, golden *tresses*.

trundle /ˈtrɛsəl/ *noun, pl trundle-tles* [count]

1 : a frame that is made of a horizontal piece between two vertical pieces and that is used to support something (such as the top of a table)

2 : a complex structure that is used especially for supporting railroad tracks over a valley, river, etc.

T. rex /ˈtiːˈrɛks/ *noun, pl ~ rexes* [count] : TYRANNOSAURUS

treys /ˈtreɪ/ *noun, pl treys* [count]

1 *basketball, informal* : a shot that is worth three points

2 : a playing card with the number 3 or a symbol repeated three times on it

tri- *prefix* : three : having three parts • *triangle* • *tricycle*

triad /ˈtraɪˌæd/ *noun, pl -ads* [count]

1 : a group of three usually related people or things — often + *of* • Sufferers experience a *triad of* symptoms: headache, fever, and sore throat.

2 : a secret Chinese criminal organization

triage /ˈtriːˌɑːʒ/ *noun* [noncount] *medical* : the process of deciding which patients should be treated first based on how sick or seriously injured they are • Nurses do *triage* in the emergency room.

1 **trial** /ˈtraɪəl/ *noun, pl -als*

1 : a formal meeting in a court in which evidence about crimes, disagreements, etc., is presented to a judge and often a jury so that decisions can be made according to the law [count] civil/criminal *trials* • a murder *trial* • He did not get/have/receive a fair *trial*. • a *trial by jury* = a jury *trial* • He testified at the *trial*. [noncount] He testified at *trial*. • She is awaiting *trial* on charges of assault. • She will *stand/face trial* [=be tried] for murder. [=there will be a trial to decide if she is guilty of murder] • He was arrested but not *brought to trial*. [=tried; there was never a trial to decide if he was guilty or innocent] • The case never *came to trial*. [=there was never a trial to make a decision about the case]

2 [count] **a** : a test of the quality, value, or usefulness of something • Early *trials* have shown that the treatment has some serious side effects. • a *clinical trial* [=a test in which scientists study how a drug, medical device, etc., affects a group of people in order to see if it is safe and effective] **b** : a test

of someone's ability to do something that is used to see if he or she should join a team, perform in a play, etc. • the Olympic *trials* • (Brit) He was cut from the team after the first *trial*. [= (US) *tryout*]

3 [count] **a** : something (such as a difficult situation or task) that shows how patient, strong, or trusting you are • Recovering from her injury was a real *trial* of strength. **b** : something or someone that is difficult to deal with : an annoying or unpleasant thing or person • I know I was a bit of a *trial* to my parents when I was a teenager. • Cold winters can be a *trial* for older people. • The book describes the *trials and tribulations* [=difficult experiences, problems, etc.] of the colony's earliest settlers.

4 [count] : an event at which animals compete and perform • a horse/dog *trial*

on trial : in a situation in which evidence against you is presented in a court to a judge and often a jury to decide if you are guilty of a crime • He is *on trial* [=being tried] for murder. • She was *on trial* on charges of drug possession. = She *went on trial* for possession of drugs. — sometimes used figuratively • The controversial case has put the entire health-care system *on trial*. [=has caused people to think about the health-care system in a critical way]

trial and error : a process in which you find out the best way to solve a problem, do something, etc., by trying different ways until one is successful • We often learn by/through *trial and error*.

²trial *adj*, always used before a noun : relating to or used in a test that is done for a period of time to see if something is worth buying, using, etc. • *trial* use of the product • If you choose to use the software beyond the 30-day free *trial period*, you are required to pay for it. • I'm using the product *on a trial basis*. [=for a short period of time]

³trial *verb* -als; -alled; -al-ling [+ *obj*] Brit : to test the quality, value, or usefulness of (something) • Companies are *trial-ling* the new accounting software.

trial balloon *noun*, *pl* ~ -loons [count] : something that you do or say in order to find out what people think about an idea, plan, etc. • She's been floating *trial balloons* about a possible run for Congress.

trial run *noun*, *pl* ~ runs [count] : a test in which a product or procedure is tried in order to see if it works correctly : TEST RUN • They will put the software through many *trial runs* before putting it on the market. • We will have to give the machine a *trial run*.

tri-angle /'traɪ,æŋɡəl/ *noun*, *pl* -an-gles [count]

1 : a shape that is made up of three lines and three angles — see picture at GEOMETRY; see also EQUILATERAL TRIANGLE, ISOSCELES TRIANGLE, RIGHT TRIANGLE

2 : something that is shaped like a triangle • She cut the sandwiches into *triangles*. • a *triangle* of land

3 : a musical instrument that is made of a steel rod bent into the shape of a triangle and that you play by hitting with a metal rod

4 : a situation in which one member of a couple is involved in a romantic or sexual relationship with another person • a love *triangle*

5 US : a usually plastic or metal device that is shaped like a triangle and used for drawing straight lines and angles — called also (Brit) *set square*

tri-an-gu-lar /traɪ'æŋɡjələ/ *adj*

1 : shaped like a triangle • a *triangular* table

2 : involving three people, groups, or things • a *triangular* agreement

tri-an-gu-la-tion /traɪ,æŋɡjə'leɪʃən/ *noun* [noncount] *technical* : a method of finding a distance or location by measuring the distance between two points whose exact location is known and then measuring the angles between each point and a third unknown point

— **tri-an-gu-late** /traɪ'æŋɡjə,leɪt/ *verb* -lates; -lat-ed; -lat-ing [+ *obj*] • Using the device we were able to *triangulate* the building's precise location.

tri-ath-lon /traɪ'æθlən/ *noun*, *pl* -lons [count] *sports* : a long-distance race that has three parts (such as swimming, bicycling, and running) • the Olympic *triathlon*

— **tri-ath-lete** /traɪ'æθ,li:t/ *noun*, *pl* -letes [count]

trib-al /'traɪbəl/ *adj* : of or relating to a tribe or tribes • *tribal* art/customs/groups/people • a *tribal* chief • Their society is *tribal*.

— **trib-al-ly** *adv* • The land is *tribally* owned.

trib-al-ism /'traɪbəlɪzəm/ *noun* [noncount] *often disapproving* : loyalty to a tribe or other social group especially when

combined with strong negative feelings for people outside the group • *Tribalism* within the group is strong. • the corrupting influence of *tribalism*

tribe /'traɪb/ *noun*, *pl* tribes [count]

1 **a** : a group of people that includes many families and relatives who have the same language, customs, and beliefs • Native American *tribes* • nomadic *tribes* **b** *informal* + *humorous* : a large family — usually singular • The whole *tribe* came to the party.

2 *humorous* + *sometimes disapproving* : a group of people who have the same job or interest • a *tribe* of artists with wild hair and casual manners

3 *biology* : a group of related plants or animals • the rose/cat *tribe*

tribes-man /'traɪbzɪmən/ *noun*, *pl* -men /-mən/ [count] : someone (especially a man) who is a member of a tribe

tribes-people /'traɪbz,pi:pəl/ *noun* [plural] : members of a tribe

tribes-wom-an /'traɪbz,wʊmən/ *noun*, *pl* -wom-en /-,wɪmən/ [count] : a woman who is a member of a tribe

trib-u-la-tion /'trɪbjə'leɪʃən/ *noun*, *pl* -tions *formal*

1 [noncount] : unhappiness, pain, or suffering • Her son's illness has been a source of great *tribulation*.

2 [count] : an experience that causes someone to suffer • The play is about the *tribulations* of a family of immigrants in New York. • the *trials and tribulations* [=difficult experiences, problems, etc.] of starting a new business

tri-bu-nal /traɪ'bju:nəl/ *noun*, *pl* -nals [count] : a kind of court that has authority in a specific area • An international *tribunal* was formed to deal with war crimes.

tri-bune /'trɪ,bju:n/ *noun*, *pl* -bunes [count]

1 : an official in ancient Rome whose job was to protect the rights of citizens

2 *formal* : someone who defends the rights of people • They've become *tribunes* of the people.

trib-u-tary /'trɪbjə,teri, Brit 'trɪbjətri/ *noun*, *pl* -tar-ies [count] : a stream that flows into a larger stream or river or into a lake • one of the river's *tributaries* • This stream is a *tributary* of the Ohio River. — often used before another noun • a *tributary* stream

trib-ute /'trɪ,bju:t/ *noun*, *pl* -utes

1 [count] : something that you say, give, or do to show respect or affection for someone • The concert was a *tribute* to the musician. • Yellow ribbons were tied on trees as a *tribute* to the soldiers at war. • *floral tributes* [=flowers that people send to a funeral or leave at a grave] • a *tribute album* [=a recording of a set of songs that another musician or musical group is known for performing] • an event at which artists and musicians *paid tribute* to the famous composer

2 [singular] : something that proves the good quality or effectiveness of something — + *to* • The pyramids are a *tribute to* Egyptian ingenuity. • It's a *tribute to* her skills as a writer that she can make such a convincing case so efficiently.

3 : money or goods that a ruler or country gives to another ruler or country especially for protection [noncount] The country was forced to *pay tribute*. [count] The ruler *paid a tribute* every year.

trice /'traɪs/ *noun*

in a trice chiefly Brit : in a small amount of time : QUICKLY • He set the table *in a trice*. • She should be here *in a trice*. [=in a moment]

tri-cep /'traɪ,sep/ *noun*, *pl* -ceps [count] : TRICEPS • an injured *tricep*

tri-ceps /'traɪ,seps/ *noun*, *pl* triceps [count] : a large muscle along the back of the upper arm • He felt a pain in his right *triceps*. — usually plural • This exercise machine works the *triceps*. • My *triceps* are sore. — compare BICEPS

tri-cer-a-tops /traɪ'serə,tə:ps/ *noun*, *pl* triceratops [count] : a large dinosaur that had three horns on its head and that ate plants

¹trick /'trɪk/ *noun*, *pl* tricks [count]

1 : an action that is meant to deceive someone • It was a *trick* to persuade her to give him money. • That was a *dirty/mean/rotten trick*. [=an unkind or unfair thing to do] — see also DIRTY TRICKS

2 : something done to surprise or confuse someone and to make other people laugh • He *played a trick on* me. [=he tricked me] • She enjoys *playing tricks on* her friends.

3 : a clever and skillful action that someone performs to entertain or amuse people • For his last *trick*, the magician made a rabbit disappear. • magic/card/circus *tricks*

4 : a clever and effective way of doing something • I know a

good *trick* for removing stains from clothes. • He knows a lot of useful programming *tricks*. • a handy *trick* for remembering names • He has a lot of experience with gardening, so he should be able to *show/teach us a trick or two*. [=he should be able to give us good advice about gardening]

5 : something that causes confusion or that makes something seem different from what it actually is • He was so tired *his mind was playing tricks on him*. [=he could not think clearly] • The paint looked blue, but it was just a *trick of the light*. [=the light made the paint appear blue even though it was a different color]

6 : the cards that are played in one round of a card game • She has won the last three *tricks*.

7 *US, informal* : a sex act performed by a prostitute • She was living on the street and *turning tricks* [=taking money for sex] to survive.

do the trick informal : to produce a desired result : to solve a problem • One small adjustment will *do the trick*.

every trick in the book ✧ If you try *every trick in the book*, you do everything you can to achieve something. • They'll use *every trick in the book* to get you to buy their products. • He tried *every trick in the book* [=he tried every method he knew] to get the car started, but nothing worked.

never/not miss a trick informal : to notice everything : to always know what is happening • He *never misses a trick*.

trick of the/your trade see ¹TRADE

up to your (old) tricks informal ✧ If you are *up to your (old) tricks*, you are doing the kind of dishonest things that you have done in the past.

you can't teach an old dog new tricks see ¹DOG

— see also HAT TRICK, TRICK OR TREAT

²trick *verb* *tricks; tricked; trick-ing* [+ *obj*] : to deceive (someone) • He *tricked* her by wearing a disguise.

trick into [*phrasal verb*] *trick (someone or something) into (something)* : to use a trick to make (someone or something) do (something) • He was *tricked into* buying the car. [=he bought the car because he was deceived]

trick out [*phrasal verb*] **1** *trick (someone) out* : to dress (someone or yourself) in an unusual way — usually + *in* • She was *tricked out in* a horrible, brightly colored costume.

2 *trick (something) out or trick out (something)* : to decorate (something) — usually + *with* • The room was *tricked out with* ribbons and streamers.

trick out of [*phrasal verb*] *trick (someone) out of (something)* : to use a trick to get (something) from (someone) • She was *tricked out of* [=cheated out of] her savings.

³trick *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : using methods that are meant to deceive someone • *trick photography* [=photography that uses special methods to make things that are not real seem to be real] • a *trick question* [=a deceptive question that is intended to make you give an answer that is not correct or that causes trouble for you]

2 : done in a clever or entertaining way • a *trick shot* in pool

3 *US* : weak and tending to fail suddenly • He has a *trick knee*.

trick-ery /'trɪkəri/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the use of tricks to deceive or cheat someone • He resorted to *trickery* to get what he wanted. • an act of *trickery*

¹trick-le /'trɪkəl/ *verb* *trick-les; trick-led; trick-ling* [*no obj*]

1 : to flow or fall in drops • Tears *trickled* down her cheeks. • Water was *trickling* out of the gutter.

2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to move or go slowly in small numbers or amounts • People *trickled* into the theater. • Donations have been *trickling* in.

trickle down [*phrasal verb*] : to spread from the upper levels of a society, organization, etc., to the lower levels — used especially to describe the movement of money through an economic system • They believe that the benefits of the tax cut for corporations should eventually *trickle down* to the average consumer. — see also TRICKLE-DOWN

²trickle *noun* [*singular*]

1 : a slow, thin flow of water • We heard the *trickle* of water from the roof. • The flow of water slowed to a *trickle*.

2 : a slow movement of people or things in small numbers or amounts • Sales have slowed to a *trickle* in recent weeks. • A slow/steady *trickle* of customers came into the store throughout the day.

trickle-down *adj, always used before a noun* — used to describe an economic theory which says that financial benefits and advantages given to wealthy people, corporations, etc., will improve the economy and eventually help the poorer

people in a society • *trickle-down* theory • *trickle-down* economics — see also *trickle down* at ¹TRICKLE

trick or treat *noun* [*noncount*] : a custom on Halloween in which children knock on people's doors and say "trick or treat" when the doors are opened to ask for candy • We got all dressed up for *trick or treat*. • When the door opened the kids all shouted "*Trick or treat!*"

— **trick-or-treat-er** *noun, pl -ers* [*count*] • We had a lot of *trick-or-treaters* at our house this year. — **trick-or-treating** *noun* [*noncount*] • The kids *went trick-or-treating*.

trick-ster /'trɪkstə/ *noun, pl -sters* [*count*] : someone who tricks or deceives people especially in order to get something • a sly *trickster* — see also CONFIDENCE TRICKSTER

tricky /'trɪki/ *adj* *trick-i-er; -est* [*also more ~; most ~*]

1 : using or likely to use dishonest tricks • a *tricky* salesman

2 : requiring skill or caution : difficult to do or deal with • a *tricky* subject/question • a *tricky* intersection • The lock is *tricky* to open.

— **trick-i-ness** /'trɪkɪnəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

¹tri-col-or (*US*) or *Brit tri-col-our* /'traɪ,kələ, Brit 'trɪkələ/ *noun, pl -ors* [*count*] : a flag (such as the national flag of France) that has three equal bands of different colors

²tricolor (*US*) or *Brit tricolour* or *US tri-col-ored* or *Brit tri-coloured* /'traɪ'kələd/ *adj* : having or using three colors • a *tricolor* flag • a *tricolored* cat

tri-cy-cle /'traɪsəkəl/ *noun, pl*

-cy-cles [*count*] : a three-wheeled vehicle that a person rides by pushing on foot pedals

✧ Tricycles are usually ridden by young children. • He likes to ride his *tricycle*. [= (*informal*) *trike*] — compare BICYCLE, UNICYCLE

tri-dent /'traɪdənt/ *noun, pl* **-dents** [*count*] : a spear that has three points and that looks like a large fork

¹tried *past tense and past participle of* ¹TRY

²tried /'traɪd/ *adj* : found to be good or effective through use or testing • a *tried* (and tested) recipe • a *tried* and trusted friend

tried-and-true *adj, chiefly US* : known to be good or effective : known to be reliable • *tried-and-true* recipes • a *tried-and-true* remedy for colds

tri-er /'traɪə/ *noun, pl -ers* [*count*] : someone who tries very hard to do something • Even if she fails she's a real *trier*.

¹tri-file /'traɪfəl/ *noun, pl tri-fles*

1 [*count*] : something that does not have much value or importance • There's no reason to argue over such *trifles*. • The money is a mere *trifle* to me.

2 [*count, noncount*] : a dessert made of layers of cake, jam or jelly, and custard and topped with whipped cream

a *trifle* : to a small degree : SLIGHTLY • The music is just a *trifle* [=a bit, a tad] too loud.

²trifle *verb* *trifles; tri-fled; tri-fling*

trifle with [*phrasal verb*] *trifle with (someone or something)* : to treat or deal with (someone or something) in a way that shows a lack of proper respect or seriousness • You shouldn't *trifle with* their feelings. • Crime is not a subject to be *trifled with*. • She is not someone to be *trifled with*. [=she should be treated with respect]

tri-fling /'traɪfəlɪŋ/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : having little value or importance • *trifling* details • a *trifling* sum of money

trig /'trɪɡ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *US, informal* : TRIGONOMETRY

¹trig-ger /'trɪɡə/ *noun, pl -gers* [*count*]

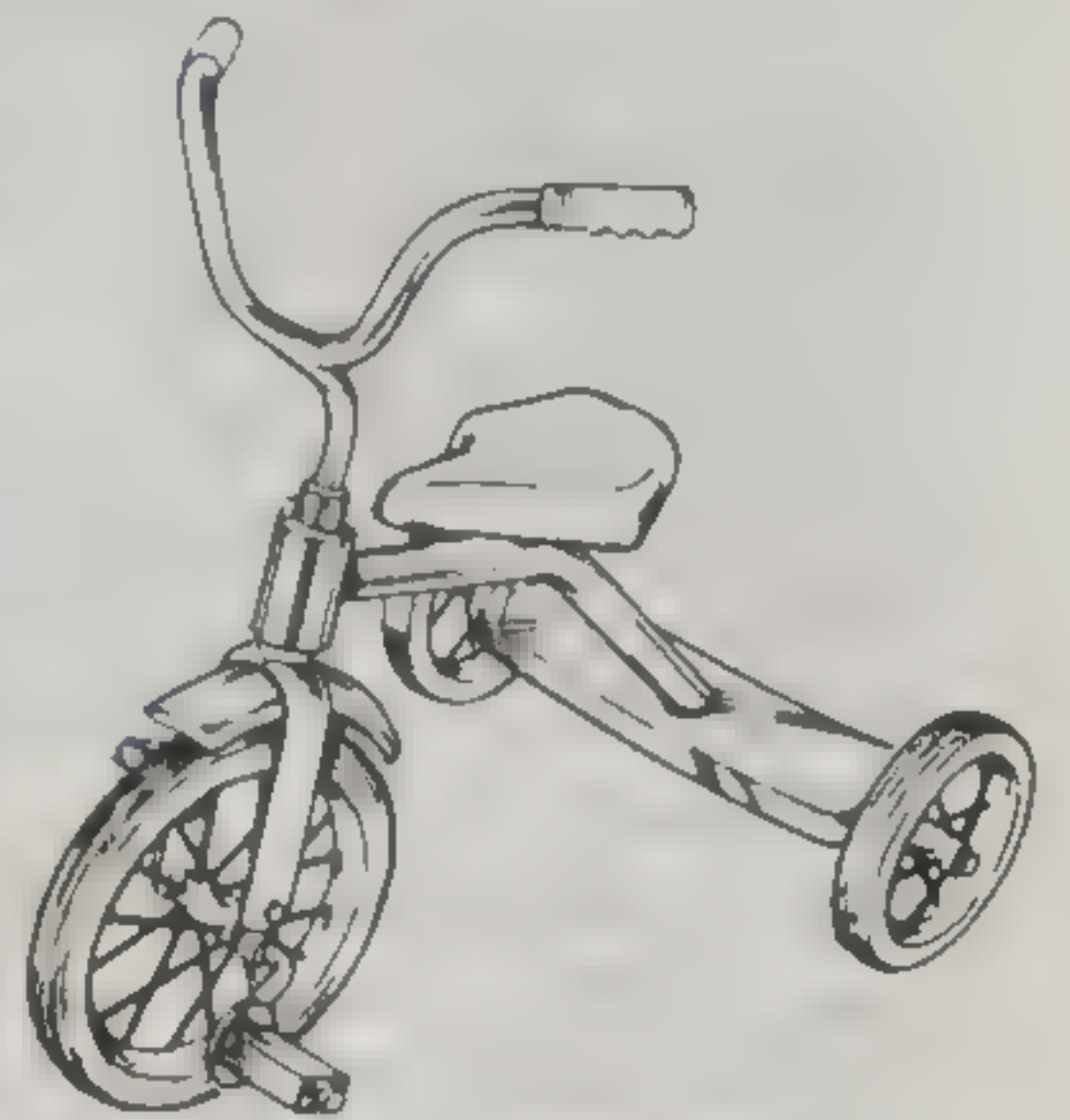
1 : a lever on a gun that you pull to fire the gun • He pulled/squeezed the *trigger*. • Police officers are trained to not be too *quick on the trigger*. [=eager to fire a gun] — see picture at GUN

2 : something that causes something else to happen — often + *for* • The faulty wire was the *trigger for* the explosion.

²trigger *verb* *-gers; -gered; -ger-ing* [+ *obj*]

1 a : to cause (something, such as an alarm) to start functioning • Smoke *triggered* the fire alarm. **b** : to cause (a bomb) to explode • The timer was set to *trigger* the bomb in exactly one hour.

2 : to cause (something) to start or happen • His remarks *triggered* a public outcry. • Certain foods *trigger* his headaches. • The power outage was *triggered* by heavy rains.



tricycle

trig·ger-hap·py /'trɪgə,hæpi/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *informal* + *disapproving* : eager to fire a gun • *trigger-happy* hunters

trig·o·nom·e·try /,trɪgə'nɒ:mətri/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a branch of mathematics that deals with relationships between the sides and angles of triangles

– **trig·o·no·met·ric** /,trɪgənə'metɪk/ *also* **trig·o·no·met·ri·cal** /,trɪgənə'metɪkəl/ *adj* • a *trigonometric* function

– **trig·o·no·met·ri·cal·ly** /,trɪgənə'metɪkli/ *adv*

trike /'traɪk/ *noun, pl trikes* [*count*] *informal* : TRICYCLE

tri·lat·er·al /traɪ'lætərəl/ *adj* : involving three groups or countries • a *trilateral* peace agreement

tril·by /'trɪlbi/ *noun, pl -bies* [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : a soft hat with part of the top pushed in — called also *trilby hat*

¹**trill** /'trɪl/ *noun, pl trills* [*count*]

1 : the sound of going quickly back and forth many times between two musical notes that are close to each other

2 : a quick high sound that is repeated • She pronounces her r's with a *trill*. • the *trill* of the bird

²**trill** *verb* **trills; trilled; trilling**

1 [+ *obj*] : to say (something) with a trill • He *trills* [=rolls] his r's when he speaks.

2 [*no obj*] : to make a series of quick high sounds • The phone *trilled* on her desk.

tril·lion /'trɪljən/ *noun, pl trillion or tril-lions* [*count*]

1 : the number 1,000,000,000,000 : one thousand billion • a/one/two *trillion* (of them) • a hundred *trillion* = 100 *trillion* • several *trillion* (of them) = (less commonly) several *trillions* (of them) • hundreds of *trillions* (of them) • a *trillion* and one [=1,000,000,000,001] • a *trillion* and a half = 1.5 *trillion* [=1,500,000,000,000] • a *trillion* dollars

2 : a very large amount or number • I've heard that excuse a *trillion* times before. [=many, many times before] — often plural • We could see *trillions* of stars in the sky. • *trillions and trillions* of cells

3 *Brit, old-fashioned* : the number 1,000,000,000,000,000,000 : one million million million

– **tril·lionth** /'trɪljənθ/ *adj* • This is the *trillionth* time I've seen this show. — **trillionth** *noun, pl -lionths* [*count*] • one *trillionth* [=one of a trillion equal parts] of a second

tril·o·gy /'trɪlədʒi/ *noun, pl -gies* [*count*] : a series of three novels, movies, etc., that are closely related and involve the same characters or themes • the last book in the *trilogy* • a science-fiction *trilogy*

¹**trim** /'trɪm/ *verb* **trims; trimmed; trim·ming** [+ *obj*]

1 **a** : to cut (something) off something else : to remove (something) by cutting — often + *away, from, or off* • She *trimmed away* the dead branches. • She *trimmed* the fat *from/off* the meat. **b** : to make (something) neat by cutting it • He *trimmed* his mustache. • The hedges need to be *trimmed*.

2 : to make the size, amount, or extent of (something) smaller • They are looking for ways to *trim* the budget.

3 : to decorate (something) especially around the edges with ribbons, ornaments, etc. • We *trimmed* the Christmas tree. • a pillow *trimmed* in/with lace

4 : to adjust (a boat's sails) in order to move faster • The sailors *trimmed* the sails.

trim down [*phrasal verb*] : to become thinner : to lose weight • He *trimmed down* over the summer.

– **trim·mer** /'trɪmə/ *noun, pl -mers* [*count*] • a mustache *trimmer*

²**trim** *adj* **trim·mer; trim·mest**

1 : neat and orderly • a *trim* lawn

2 : slim and healthy • She has a *trim* figure. • He keeps fit and *trim* by biking.

– **trim·ly** *adv*

³**trim** *noun, pl trims*

1 [*count*] : an act of trimming something (such as hair) — usually singular • He went to the barber for a *trim*. • The lawn needs a *trim*.

2 : material (such as ribbons, lace, etc.) that is used for decorating something especially around its edges [*noncount*] • a skirt with lace *trim* • The house is gray with black *trim*. [=the pieces of wood around the doors, windows, etc., are painted black] [*count*] — usually singular • The fabric has a gold *trim*.

in trim : in good condition • He's been exercising to get *in trim* for the season.

tri·ma·ran /'traɪmə,ræn/ *noun, pl -rans* [*count*] : a boat that has three hulls

tri·mes·ter /traɪ'mestə/ *noun, pl -ters* [*count*]

1 : a period of three months; *especially* : one of three periods

into which a woman's pregnancy is often divided • *development in the first/second/third trimester*

2 *US* : one of three periods into which an academic year is sometimes divided — compare *QUARTER, SEMESTER, TERM*

trim·mings /'trɪmɪnz/ *noun* [*plural*]

1 : something that is added to complete a dish or meal • a feast with turkey and *all the trimmings* [=all the other foods that are typically served with turkey]

2 : pieces removed from something by trimming it • *hedge/meat trimmings*

3 *US* : something added as a decoration especially around the edges • a hat with leather *trimmings*

trin·i·ty /'trɪnəti/ *noun, pl -ties*

1 *the Trinity Christianity* : the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit existing as one God — called also *the Holy Trinity*

2 [*count*] : a group of three people or things • a *trinity* of goals • an unholy *trinity* of criminal organizations

trin·ket /'trɪŋkət/ *noun, pl -kets* [*count*] : a piece of jewelry or an ornament that has little value

trio /'triːjə/ *noun, pl tri-os* [*count*]

1 : a group of three singers or musicians who perform together • He plays in a *jazz trio*; *also* : a piece of music for such a group • a *piano trio*

2 : a group or three people or things • a *trio* of novels

¹**trip** /'trɪp/ *noun, pl trips*

1 [*count*] **a** : a journey to a place • They got back from their *trip* yesterday. • a *trip* around the world • How was your *trip*? • a *day trip* [=a journey in which you go to visit a place and then return to your home on the same day] • She is away on a *business trip*. [=she is traveling as part of her work] — often + *to* • She took a *trip to* Europe. — see also *FIELD TRIP, ROAD TRIP, ROUND TRIP* **b** : a short journey to a store, business, office, etc., for a particular purpose — usually + *to* • He made a *trip to* the dentist. • I need to make a quick *trip to* the store for milk and eggs.

2 [*count*] *informal* : the experience of strange mental effects (such as seeing things that are not real) that is produced by taking a very powerful drug (such as LSD) • He was on an *acid trip*.

3 [*count*] : an act of falling or nearly falling that is caused by accidentally hitting your foot on something as you are walking or running • an ankle injury caused by a *trip*

4 [*singular*] *US, informal + somewhat old-fashioned* : an exciting or unusual experience or person • The party was quite a *trip*. • His mother is a *trip*.

5 [*count*] : an experience or activity that is like a journey • He's on a *nostalgia trip*. [=he is thinking about the past a lot] — see also *EGO TRIP, GUILT TRIP, POWER TRIP*

²**trip** *verb* **trips; tripped; trip·ping**

1 **a** [*no obj*] : to hit your foot against something while you are walking or running so that you fall or almost fall • Be careful. Don't *trip*. — often + *on* or *over* • He *tripped* [=stumbled] *over* the curb. • She *tripped on* the stairs and almost fell. **b** [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone who is walking or running) to fall or almost fall • He deliberately tried to *trip* me. — often + *up* • He got *tripped up* by the wires on the floor.

2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] *literary* : to dance or walk with light, quick steps • The dancers *tripped off* the stage.

3 [+ *obj*] : to cause (something, such as an alarm or a switch) to be turned on often in an accidental way • Burglars smashed in the window and *tripped* [=set off] the alarm. • She *tripped* [=threw] the switch.

4 [*no obj*] *informal* : to experience strange mental effects (such as seeing things that are not real) after taking a very powerful drug (such as LSD) — often + *on* • They were *trip·ping on* acid.

trip off the tongue see ¹TONGUE

trip the light fantastic informal + old-fashioned : DANCE • They were *tripping the light fantastic* all night.

trip up [*phrasal verb*] **trip up (someone) or trip (someone) up** : to cause (someone) to make a mistake • He tried to *trip up* the cashier as she counted his change. — see also ²TRIP 1b (above)

tri·par·tite /traɪ'pɑː,tart/ *adj, formal* : involving three people, groups, or parts • a *tripartite* treaty

tripe /'traɪp/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the stomach of an animal (such as a cow or ox) that is eaten as food

2 : something that is worthless, unimportant, or of poor quality • How can you watch this *tripe*? [=rubbish] • That's just a load of *tripe*.

¹tri·ple /ˈtripəl/ *verb* **tri·ples; tri·pled; tri·pling**

1 a [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to become three times as great or as many • He *tripled* his winnings at the track. **b** [*no obj*] : to become three times as great or as many • The town's population has *tripled* in size.

2 [*no obj*] *baseball* : to hit a triple : to hit the ball so that you can reach third base • He *tripled* to right field.

²triple *noun, pl triples* [count] *baseball* : a hit that allows the batter to reach third base — compare DOUBLE, HOME RUN, SINGLE**³triple** *adj*

1 : three times bigger in size or amount • She got a new job with *triple* the salary of her old one. • He ordered a *triple* espresso.

2 *always used before a noun* : having three parts or including three people or things • *triple* bypass surgery [=surgery on three blood vessels surrounding the heart] • a *triple* murder [=a murder of three people]

— **tri·ply** /ˈtripli/ *adv*

triple bond *noun, pl ~ bonds* [count] *technical* : a chemical bond in which three atoms in a molecule share three pairs of electrons — compare DOUBLE BOND, SINGLE BOND

Triple Crown *noun* [singular]

1 : an occurrence in which a horse wins a series of three major races • a horse that won the first leg of the *Triple Crown*

2 *baseball* : the achievement of a baseball player who at the end of a season leads the league in batting average, home runs, and runs batted in • Who was the last player to win the *Triple Crown* in the American League?

3 or *triple crown* : a set of three major awards, wins, or achievements in a particular field

tri·ple-deck·er /ˌtripəlˈdekər/ *noun, pl -ers* [count] : something that has three levels or layers • The bus we rode on was a *triple-decker*. — usually used before another noun • We took a tour of London on a *triple-decker* bus. • a *triple-decker* sandwich — compare DOUBLE-DECKER, SINGLE-DECKER

tri·ple-dou·ble /ˌtripəlˈdʌbəl/ *noun, pl -dou·bles* [count] *basketball* : the achievement of a player who gets 10 or more points, assists, and rebounds in one game

tri·ple-head·er /ˌtripəlˈhedər/ *noun, pl -ers* [count] *US* : three games played one after another on the same day • a *triple-header* *basketball*

triple jump *noun*

the triple jump : an athletic event in which people compete by making three jumps one after another

triple play *noun, pl ~ plays* [count] *baseball* : a play in which the team in the field causes three runners to be put out • The batter hit into a *triple play*. • They *turned a triple play* in the first inning. — compare DOUBLE PLAY

trip·let /ˈtriplət/ *noun, pl -lets* [count]

1 : one of three babies that are born at the same time to the same mother — usually plural • She had *triplets*. [=she gave birth to three babies] — compare QUADRUPLET, QUINTUPLET, SEXTUPLET, TWIN

2 : a combination, set, or group of three things • a *triplet* of colors

tri·plex /ˈtriˌpleks/ *noun, pl -plex-es* [count] *US* : a building that is divided into three separate homes

¹trip·li·cate /ˈtriplikət/ *noun*

in triplicate : in three copies • File the forms *in triplicate*.

²triplicate *adj, always used before a noun* : having or existing in three copies • a *triplicate* invoice

tri·pod /ˈtraɪˌpɔːd/ *noun, pl -pods* [count] : a support or stand for a camera, telescope, etc., that has three legs

trip·per /ˈtripər/ *noun, pl -pers* [count] *chiefly Brit* : a person who takes a short trip to visit an interesting place • a *day tripper* [=a person who goes on a short trip that lasts for less than a full day]

trip·py /ˈtripi/ *adj -pi·er; -est informal* : relating to or like the strange mental effects experienced by someone who has taken a powerful drug (such as LSD) • The movie was full of *trippy* images. • *trippy* music

trip·tych /ˈtripˌtɪk/ *noun, pl -tychs* [count] : a picture (such as a painting) that has three panels placed next to each other

trip·wire /ˈtripˌwaɪər/ *noun, pl -wires* [count] : a wire placed close to the ground which trips people, sets off an alarm, or causes an explosion when it is touched

trite /ˈtraɪt/ *adj* **trit·er; -est** [or more ~; most ~] : not inter-

esting or effective because of being used too often : not fresh or original • That argument has become *trite*. • *trite* clichés — **trite·ly** *adv* • *trite*ly obvious remarks — **trite·ness** *noun* [noncount]

¹tri·umph /ˈtraɪəmf/ *noun, pl -umphs*

1 [count] **a** : a great or important victory • They earned/gained a magnificent *triumph* over the invading army. • They celebrated their *triumph* with a parade through the streets of the city. • They were able to achieve an important *triumph* against their chief rivals. **b** : a great success or achievement • Quitting smoking was a personal *triumph* for her. • The party was a *triumph*. • The bridge is an engineering *triumph*.

2 [noncount] : the very happy and joyful feeling that comes from victory or success • They had a feeling of *triumph* after finishing the project. • shouts of *triumph* • They stood atop the mountain in *triumph*.

3 [count] : something good that is an excellent example of a particular method, quality, etc. • The design is a *triumph* of simplicity. [=the design is very good and simple]

²triumph *verb -umphs; -umphed; -umph-ing* [no obj] : to achieve victory especially in a long or difficult contest • She likes stories where good *triumphs* [=prevails] over evil. • His favorite team *triumphed* in the championship game.

tri·um·phal /traɪˈʌmfəl/ *adj* : of, relating to, or honoring a triumph : celebrating a victory or success • a *triumphal* procession • a *triumphal* arch

tri·um·phant /traɪˈʌmfənt/ *adj*

1 : resulting in victory or success • The boxer made a *triumphant* return to the ring. [=the boxer won when he returned to the ring to fight again]

2 : celebrating victory or success • a *triumphant* shout — **tri·um·phant·ly** *adv* • The fans cheered *triumphantly*.

tri·um·vi·rate /traɪˈʌmvərət/ *noun, pl -rates* [count] : a group of three people who share a position of authority or power

triv·et /ˈtrɪvət/ *noun, pl -ets* [count] : a short metal stand used for holding a hot dish

triv·ia /ˈtrɪvɪə/ *noun* [noncount]

1 : unimportant facts or details • She doesn't pay attention to such *trivia*.

2 : facts about people, events, etc., that are not well-known • He is an expert on baseball *trivia*. • *trivia* questions

triv·i·al /ˈtrɪvɪjəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not important • statistics and other *trivial* matters • a *trivial* sum of money • Compared to her problems, our problems seem *trivial*.

triv·i·al·i·ty /ˌtrɪvɪˈæləti/ *noun, pl -ties*

1 [count] : something that is not important : TRIFLE • We shouldn't spend time on such *trivialities*.

2 [noncount] : the quality or state of being trivial • the *triviality* of the problem

triv·i·al·ize also *Brit* **triv·i·al·ise** /ˈtrɪvɪjəˌlaɪz/ *verb -iz-es; -ized; -iz-ing* [+ *obj*] *usually disapproving* : to make (something) seem less important or serious than it actually is • The news story *trivialized* the problem. • He is *trivializing* the situation.

— **triv·i·al·i·za·tion** also *Brit* **triv·i·al·i·sa·tion** /ˌtrɪvɪjələˈzeɪʃən, *Brit* ˌtrɪvɪəˌlaɪˈzeɪʃən/ *noun, pl -tions* [noncount] the *trivialization* of their efforts [count] The movie was a *trivialization* of an important era in American history.

trod *past tense and past participle of* ¹TREAD

trodden *past participle of* ¹TREAD

trog·lo·dyte /ˈtrɔːɡləˌdaɪt/ *noun, pl -dytes* [count] : a person who lived in a cave in prehistoric times

troi·ka /ˈtroɪkə/ *noun, pl -kas* [count] : a group of three people, things, countries, etc. • a *troika* of judges • A *troika* of countries signed the agreement.

Tro·jan /ˈtraʊdʒən/ *noun, pl -jans* [count] : a person who was born or who lived in the ancient city of Troy *work like a Trojan* *chiefly Brit, old-fashioned* : to work very hard • He's been *working like a Trojan* on this project.

— **Trojan** *adj*

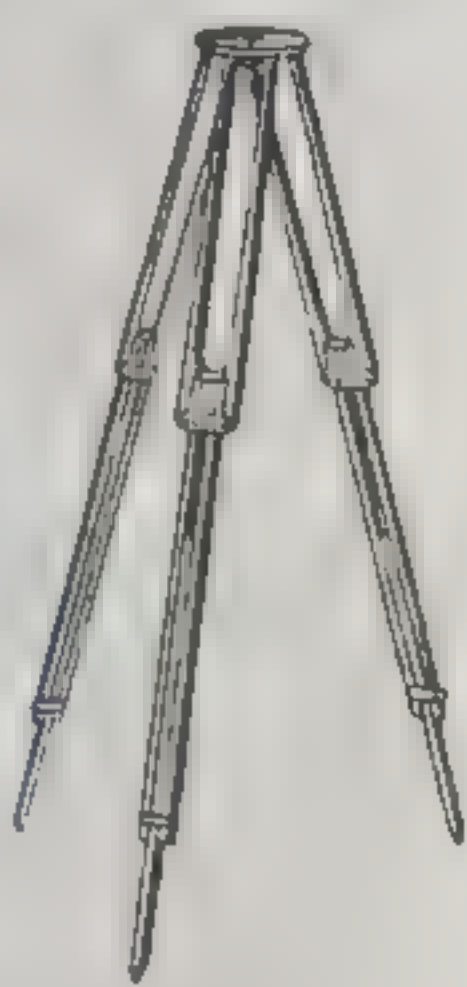
Trojan horse *noun, pl ~ horses* [count]

1 : someone or something that is used to hide what is true or real in order to trick or harm an enemy • They may be using the other corporation as a *Trojan horse*.

2 *computers* : a seemingly useful computer program that is actually designed to harm your computer (such as by destroying data files) if you use it

¹troll /ˈtrɒl/ *noun, pl trolls* [count]

1 *in stories* : a creature that looks like a very large or very small ugly person



tripod



2 computers : a person who tries to cause problems on an Internet message board by posting messages that cause other people to argue, become angry, etc.

²troll *verb* **trolls; trolled; troll-ing**

1 : to fish with a hook and line that you pull through the water [+ *obj*] They were *trolling* the ocean floor. [no *obj*] — often + *for* • They *trolled for* fish.

2 a [no *obj*] : to search for or try to get (something) — often + *for* • *troll for* answers/comments/responses • politicians *trolling for* votes **b** [+ *obj*] : to search through (something) • She loves to *troll* flea markets looking for bargains.

— **troll-er** *noun*, *pl* **-ers** [count]

trol-ley /'trɒːli/ *noun*, *pl* **-leys** [count]

1 a US : an electric vehicle that runs along the street on tracks — called also *streetcar*, (US) *trolley car*, (chiefly Brit) *tram* **b** : a vehicle that is pulled along tracks on the ground by a moving cable or that hangs from a moving cable — called also (US) *trolley car*

2 chiefly Brit a : a metal basket on wheels used to hold groceries while you are shopping • a shopping *trolley* [= (US) *cart*] **b** : a table with wheels used especially for serving food • a dessert *trolley* [= (US) *cart*]

off your trolley *Brit, informal* : CRAZY • If you think I'm going to do that you're *off your trolley*. [= (US) *off your rocker*]

trol-lop /'trɒːləp/ *noun*, *pl* **-lops** [count] *old-fashioned* + *offensive* : a woman who has sex with many different men

trom-bone /'trɒmˈbəʊn/ *noun*, *pl* **-bones** [count] : a large brass musical instrument that you blow into and that has a tube that you slide in and out to play different notes — see picture at BRASS INSTRUMENT

— **trom-bon-ist** /'trɒmˈbəʊnist/ *noun*, *pl* **-ists** [count]

tromp /'trɒmp/ *verb*, always followed by an adverb or preposition **tromps; tromped; tromp-ing** [no *obj*] *US, informal* : ¹TRAMP **1** • We *tromped over/through* the grass. • Workmen were *tromping through* the building all day.

trompe l'oeil /,trɒmpˈlɔɪ/ *noun* [noncount] : a style of painting in which things are painted in a way that makes them look like real objects ♦ In French, *trompe l'oeil* means "deceives the eye."

¹troop /'truːp/ *noun*, *pl* **troops**

1 a [count] : a group of soldiers • Where is his *troop* heading? **b troops** [plural] : soldiers in a group • American *troops* fighting overseas • enemy *troops* • a plan to withdraw *troops* — see also SHOCK TROOPS

2 [count] : a group of people or things • a *troop* of enthusiastic children • a *troop* of monkeys

3 [count] : a group of Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts

Do not confuse *troop* with *troupe*.

²troop *verb*, always followed by an adverb or preposition **troops; trooped; troop-ing** [no *obj*] : to walk somewhere in a group • We all *trooped back* inside. • The kids *trooped off* to school.

troop-er /'truːpə/ *noun*, *pl* **-ers** [count]

1 : a low-ranking soldier — see also PARATROOPER, STORM TROOPER

2 US : a state police officer • a state *trooper*

Do not confuse *trooper* with *trouper*.

troop-ship /'truːpˌʃɪp/ *noun*, *pl* **-ships** [count] : a ship used to transport soldiers

trope /'trɒp/ *noun*, *pl* **tropes** [count] *technical* : a word, phrase, or image used in a new and different way in order to create an artistic effect • a literary *trope*

tro-phy /'trɒfi/ *noun*, *pl* **-phies** [count]

1 : an object (such as a large cup or sculpture) that is given as a prize for winning a competition • a golf/bowling *trophy* • a *trophy case/room*

2 : something that you keep or take to show that you were successful in hunting, war, etc. • hunting *trophies*

trophy wife *noun*, *pl* ~ **wives** [count] *informal* + *disapproving* : an attractive young woman who is married to an older successful man • a millionaire and his young *trophy wife*

trop-ic /'trɒːpɪk/ *noun*, *pl* **-ics**

1 [singular] : either one of the two imaginary lines that circle the Earth to the north and south of the equator ♦ The *Tropic of Cancer* is 23½ degrees north of the equator and the *Tropic of Capricorn* is 23½ degrees south of the equator.

2 the tropics : the part of the world that is near the equator where the weather is very warm • a vacation in the *tropics*

trop-i-cal /'trɒːpɪkəl/ *adj* : of, relating to, occurring in, or used in the tropics • a *tropical* climate/country/region • *trop-*

ical forests/plants — see also SUBTROPICAL

— **trop-i-cal-ly** /'trɒːpɪkli/ *adv*

tropical fish *noun*, *pl* ~ **fish** [count] : a small, brightly colored fish that lives in warm water in tropical areas

tropical rain forest *noun*, *pl* ~ **-ests** [count] : RAIN FOREST

tropical storm *noun*, *pl* ~ **storms** [count] : a powerful storm that begins in the tropics and that has winds which are not as strong as those of a hurricane

¹trot /'trɒt/ *verb* **trots; trot-ted; trot-ting** [no *obj*]

1 of a horse : to move at a speed faster than walking by stepping with each front leg at the same time as the opposite back leg • A horse *trotted* past us.

2 always followed by an adverb or preposition a : to run at a slow, steady pace • The batter *trotted* around the bases after hitting a home run. **b** : to move quickly : HURRY • She *trotted off* to help. • The little boy *trotted* along after his mother. *hot to trot* see ¹HOT

trot out [phrasal verb] **trot (something) out or trot out (something) informal** **1 disapproving** : to say (something that has been said before) as an excuse, explanation, etc. • Don't *trot out* that old excuse again. **2** : to bring (something) out to be displayed • Designers *trotted out* their latest designs at the fashion show.

²trot *noun*, *pl* **trots**

1 [singular] : a horse's way of moving that is faster than a walk but slower than a gallop • The horse went into a slow *trot*. — compare ¹CANTER, ¹GALLOP

2 [singular] : a person's way of running slowly • He set off at a *trot*.

3 the trots informal : DIARRHEA • Something I ate gave me the *trots*.

on the trot *Brit, informal* **1** : following one after another • He won the race three times *on the trot*. [=in a row] **2** : busy all the time • Working full-time and raising children keeps her *on the trot* [=on the go] from morning till night.

— see also FOX-TROT

troth /'trɒθ/ *noun*

plight your troth see ²PLIGHT

trot-ter /'trɒtə/ *noun*, *pl* **-ters** [count]

1 : a horse that has been trained to trot in races

2 : a pig's foot cooked and used as food

— see also GLOBE-TROTTER

trou-ba-dour /'truːbəˈdɔː/ *noun*, *pl* **-dours** [count] : a writer and performer of songs or poetry in the Middle Ages

¹trou-ble /'trʌbl/ *noun*, *pl* **trou-bles**

1 : problems or difficulties [noncount] The new system is giving me *trouble*. • He was having *trouble* with his homework. • I had a little *trouble* finding the place. • He had no *trouble* finding a new job. • This decision could *spell trouble* [=cause problems] for all of us. • So far, the trip has been *trouble free*. [=so far, there have been no problems on the trip] • gangs looking to *make/cause trouble* [count] — usually plural • She told me all her personal *troubles*. • Your *troubles* are over now that he's out of your life. • I have my own *troubles* to worry about. • They've had some financial *troubles* since he lost his job.

2 [noncount] **a** : a situation that is difficult or has a lot of problems • When the new CEO arrived, the company was *in trouble*. • She's *in big/deep* financial *trouble*. [=she has serious problems with her money] • She got *into trouble* with her credit cards. • Can anyone help get the company *out of trouble*? [=solve the company's problems] **b** : a situation that occurs if you do something wrong or break a rule and which will make someone angry or cause you to be punished • He's always *getting in/into trouble* at school. • He promised to *keep/stay out of trouble*. [=behave well, not do anything bad] — often + *with* • She was *in trouble with* the police. • He will be *in trouble with* his mom if he's late.

3 [noncount] : a physical pain or illness • heart/stomach *trouble* • She has been having *trouble* with her knee.

4 [noncount] : a situation in which a machine does not work correctly • He's been having car/engine/computer *trouble*. • She was having *trouble* with her computer.

5 [singular] : a bad feature, characteristic, quality, etc. • His *trouble* is that he's lazy and unreliable. — often + *with* • The *trouble with* driving into the city is finding a place to park.

6 [noncount] : extra effort or work • You didn't have to *go to all that trouble* for me. [=you didn't have to do all the extra work for me] • Thank you for *taking the trouble* [=making the effort] to write. • They didn't even *take the trouble* to call and let me know they'd be late. • I decided that upgrading

the software was *more trouble than it's worth*. • It's *not worth the trouble*. • If it's *no trouble* [=if it is not too difficult or inconvenient], could you bring us some more coffee? • "I'm sorry to bother you." "It's *no trouble*. I'm happy to help."

ask for trouble see ASK

look for trouble see ¹LOOK

²**trouble** *verb* **troubles**; **trou-bled**; **trou-bling** [+ *obj*]

1 : to make (someone) feel worried or upset : WORRY • The accusations *troubled* him deeply. • I'm *troubled* by his strange behavior.

2 *formal* : to disturb or bother (someone) • I don't mean to *trouble* you, but I have a question. • Could I *trouble* you for the time? [=can you tell me what time it is?] • *Don't trouble yourself* [=I don't need your help], I can handle it.

3 : to cause (someone) to feel pain • My back has been *trou-bling* [=bothering] me again.

4 : to make an effort to do something • I wish you'd at least *troubled* [=bothered] to call.

troubled *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : worried or anxious • a *troubled* expression/look • She seemed *troubled* about something.

2 : having many problems • a *troubled* child/student • These have been *troubled* times. • a *troubled* marriage/relationship • *troubled waters* : a difficult or confusing situation • He entered the *troubled waters* of the college application process.

trou-ble-mak-er /'trʌbəl,meɪkə/ *noun*, *pl* -ers [count] : a person who causes trouble : a person who creates problems or difficulties involving other people • He had the reputation of being a *troublemaker* in high school.

trou-ble-shoot-er /'trʌbəl,ʃu:tə/ *noun*, *pl* -ers [count]

1 : a person who finds and fixes problems in machinery and technical equipment (such as computers)

2 : a person who tries to find solutions to problems or end disagreements • a financial *troubleshooter*

– **trou-ble-shoot-ing** /'trʌbəl,ʃu:tɪŋ/ *noun* [noncount] • *troubleshooting tips*

trou-ble-some /'trʌbəlsəm/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : causing problems or worry : causing trouble • a *troublesome* infection • *troublesome* children

– **trou-ble-some-ly** *adv* – **trou-ble-some-ness** *noun* [noncount]

trouble spot *noun*, *pl* ~ **spots** [count] : a place where violence or war often happens • one of the world's *trouble spots*

trou-bling /'trʌblɪŋ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : causing feelings of worry : disturbing or upsetting • *troubling* events/news/questions

trough /'traʊf/ *noun*, *pl* **troughs** [count]

1 : a long, shallow container from which animals (such as cows, pigs, horses, etc.) eat or drink • a *water trough*

2 : a period in which there is little economic activity and prices are usually low • The economy/business is in a *trough* right now.

3 : a long, low area between waves or hills

4 *weather* : a long, narrow area of low air pressure between two areas of higher pressure — compare RIDGE 4

have/get your nose/snout in the trough *Brit*, *disapproving* : to be in or get into a situation in which you are getting or trying to get a lot of money

trounce /'traʊns/ *verb* **trounc-es**; **trounced**; **trounc-ing** [+ *obj*] : to defeat (someone or something) easily and thoroughly • Their opponents *trounced* them in the final game. [=their opponents won by a large amount]

troupe /'tru:p/ *noun*, *pl* **troupes** [count] : a group of actors, singers, etc., who work together • an acting/singing/dance *troupe*

Do not confuse *troupe* with *troop*.

trouper /'tru:pə/ *noun*, *pl* -ers [count] *informal*

1 : an actor or other performer who is very experienced and reliable

2 : someone who works very hard, is very reliable, and does not complain when there are problems • She's been a real *trouper* about the whole thing.

Do not confuse *trouper* with *trooper*.

trou-sers /'traʊzəz/ *noun* [plural] : PANTS 1

all mouth and no trousers see ¹MOUTH

wear the trousers see ¹WEAR

with your trousers down *Brit*, *informal* : in an embarrassing situation • another CEO caught *with his trousers down* [= (US) with his pants down]

– **trou-ser** /'traʊzə/ *adj*, *always used before a noun* • a *trou-ser* leg

trouser suit *noun*, *pl* ~ **suits** [count] *Brit* : PANTSUIT

trous-seau /'tru:sou/ *noun*, *pl* **trous-seaux** or **trous-seaus** /'tru:souz/ [count] *old-fashioned* : the clothes and personal possessions that a woman collects when she is about to get married

trout /'traʊt/ *noun*, *pl* **trout** *also* **trouts**

1 [count, noncount] : a common fish that lives in rivers and lakes and is often used as food — see color picture on page C8

2 *pl* **trouts** [count] *Brit*, *informal* : an unpleasant old woman — usually used in the phrase *old trout*

trove /'trəʊv/ *noun*, *pl* **troves** [count] see TREASURE TROVE

trou-el /'traʊəl/ *noun*, *pl* -els [count]

1 : a small tool with a curved blade that is used by gardeners for digging holes — see picture at GARDENING

2 : a small tool with a flat blade that is used for spreading and smoothing mortar or plaster

tru-ant /'tru:wənt/ *noun*, *pl* -ants [count] : a student who misses school without permission • an increasing number of *truants* • a *truant officer* [=a person who looks for students who are not in school]

play truant *Brit*, *informal* : to miss school without permission • He's been *playing truant* [= (US) *playing hooky*, (*Brit*) *skiving off*] with his friends.

– **tru-an-cy** /'tru:wənsi/ *noun*, *pl* -cies [noncount] What can we do about the problem of *truancy* in our schools? [count] How can we reduce *truancies* in our schools?

– **truant** *adj* • He's been *truant* twice this week.

truce /'tru:s/ *noun*, *pl* **truces** [count] : an agreement between enemies or opponents to stop fighting, arguing, etc., for a certain period of time • They called/proposed a *truce*. • There's been an uneasy *truce* between her and her parents for the past several months. • They *broke the truce*. [=they began fighting when there was an agreement not to fight]

¹**truck** /'trʌk/ *noun*, *pl* **trucks** [count]

1 : a vehicle that carries things: such as a : a very large, heavy vehicle that is used to move large or numerous objects • a *flatbed/tanker truck* • a *delivery truck* — called also (*Brit*) *lorry*; see picture on next page; see also DUMP TRUCK, FIRE TRUCK, TOW TRUCK b : a vehicle that is larger than a car and that has an open back with low sides : PICKUP — see also PANEL TRUCK

2 : a piece of equipment that has wheels and handles and that you push or pull to move heavy objects • He loaded the boxes onto the *truck* and wheeled them into the building.

3 *Brit* : a railroad car that is open at the top • a *cattle truck* *have/hold/want no truck with* : to refuse to be involved with (someone or something) • I'll *have no truck* with such nonsense.

²**truck** *verb* **trucks**; **trucked**; **truck-ing** *US*

1 [+ *obj*] : to transport (something) in a truck • They *trucked* food to the market. — often + *in* • Produce is *trucked in* from local farms.

2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [no *obj*] *informal* : to move or go especially in an easy, steady, or relaxed way • Everyone *trucked on* over to our house after the game. • The economy has been doing poorly, but somehow our company manages to keep *trucking along*.

truck-er /'trʌkə/ *noun*, *pl* -ers [count] *US* : a person whose job is to drive a truck

truck farm *noun*, *pl* ~ **farms** [count] *US* : a farm where people grow vegetables that will be sold in markets — called also (*Brit*) *market garden*

– **truck farmer** *noun*, *pl* ~ -ers [count]

truck-ing /'trʌkɪŋ/ *noun* [noncount] : the business of transporting things in trucks — often used before another noun • *trucking companies*

truck-load /'trʌk'ləʊd/ *noun*, *pl* -loads [count]

1 : a load that fills a truck • a *truckload* of sand

2 *informal* : a large amount of something • He borrowed a *truckload* [=a lot] of money to start the business.

truck stop *noun*, *pl* ~ **stops** [count] *US* : a restaurant that is near a highway and that is used especially by truck drivers — called also (*Brit*) *transport café*

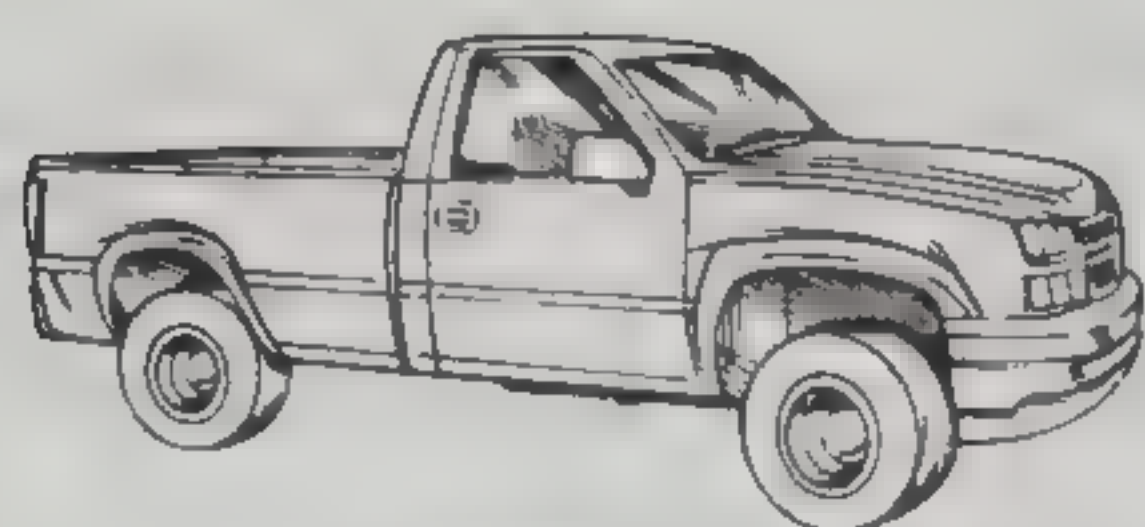
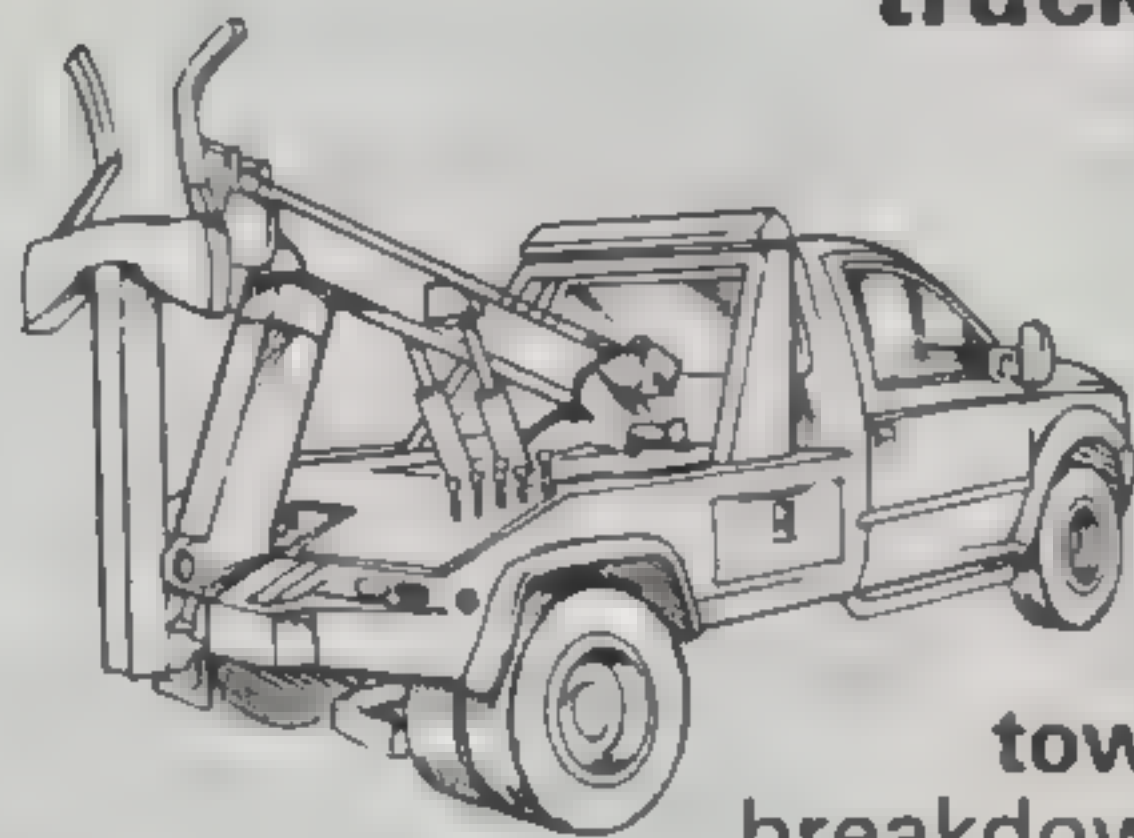
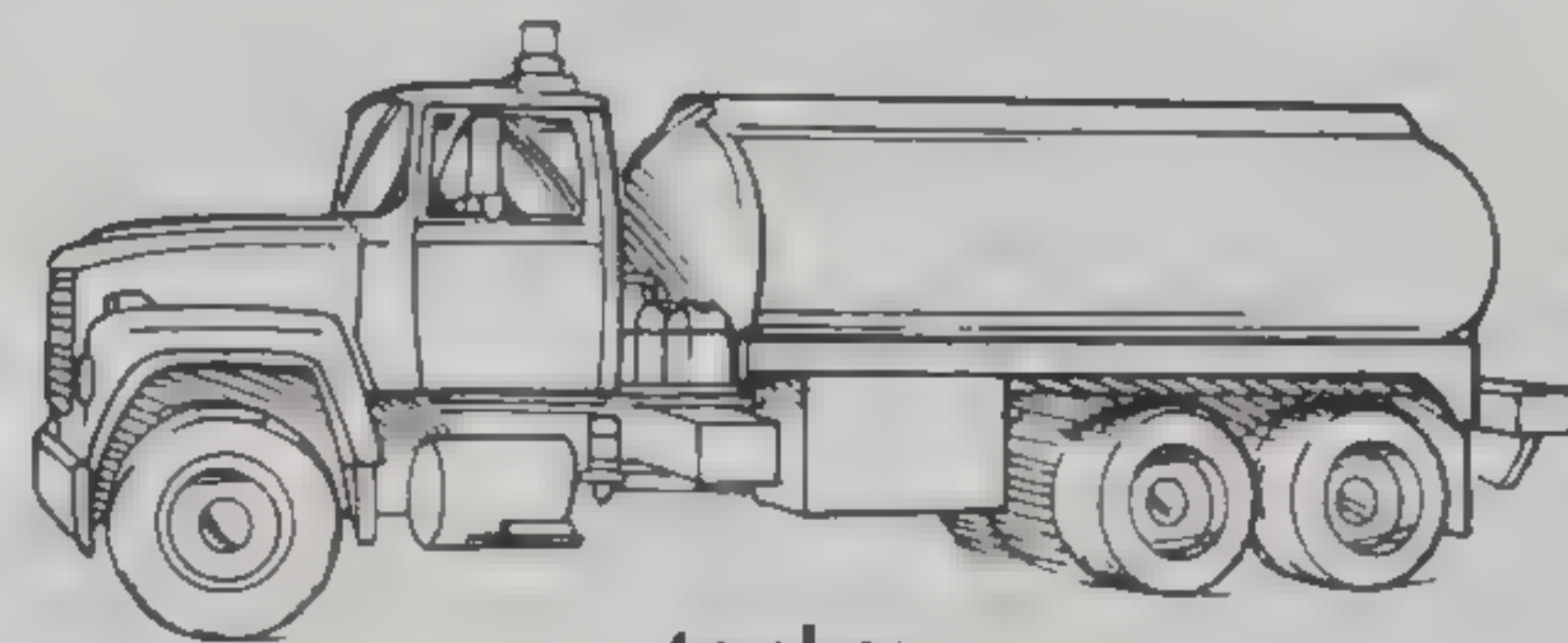
tru-cu-lent /'trʌkjələnt/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : easily annoyed or angered and likely to argue • a *truculent* person

– **truc-u-lence** /'trʌkjələns/ *noun* [noncount] – **tru-cu-lent-ly** *adv*

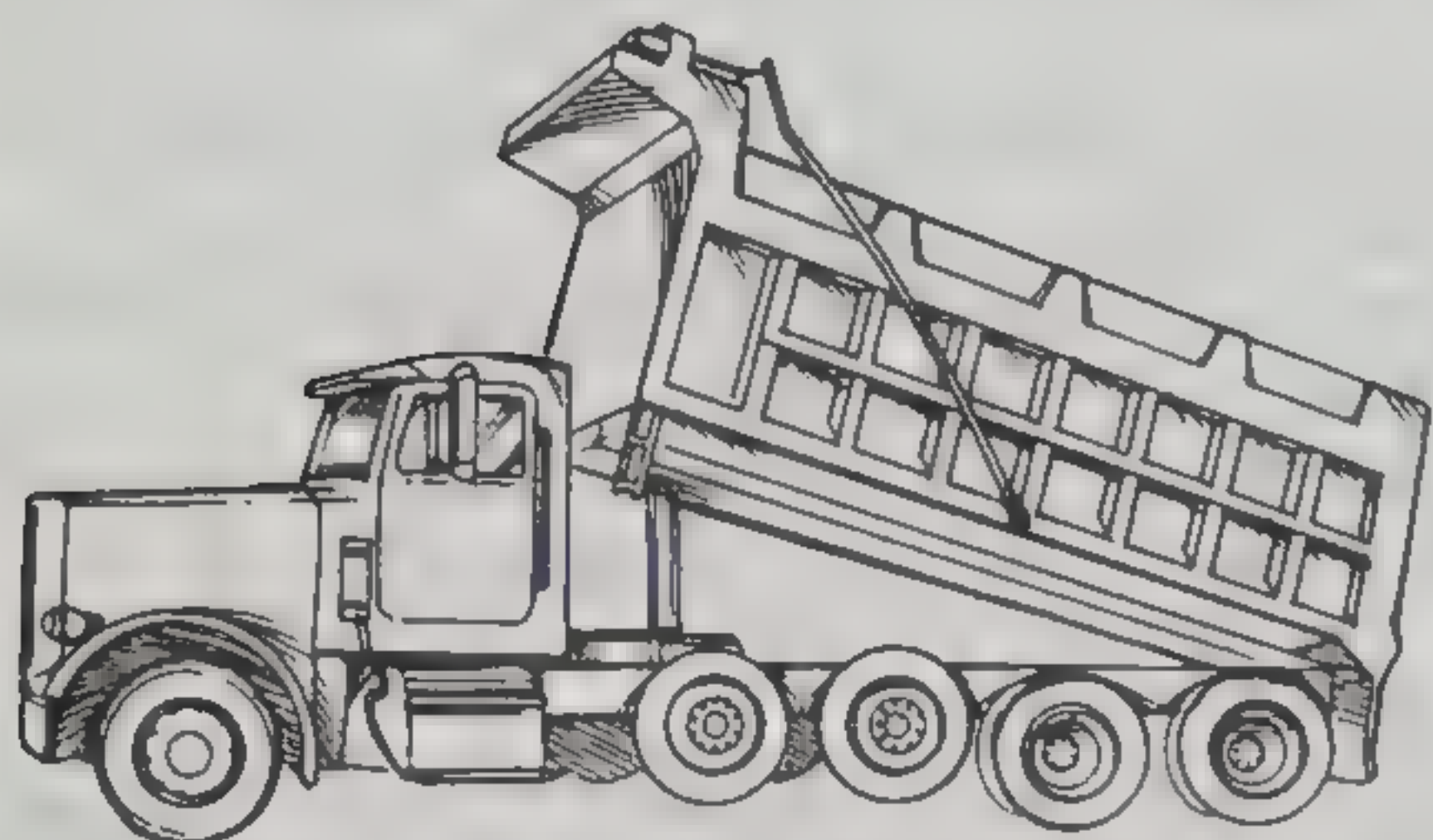
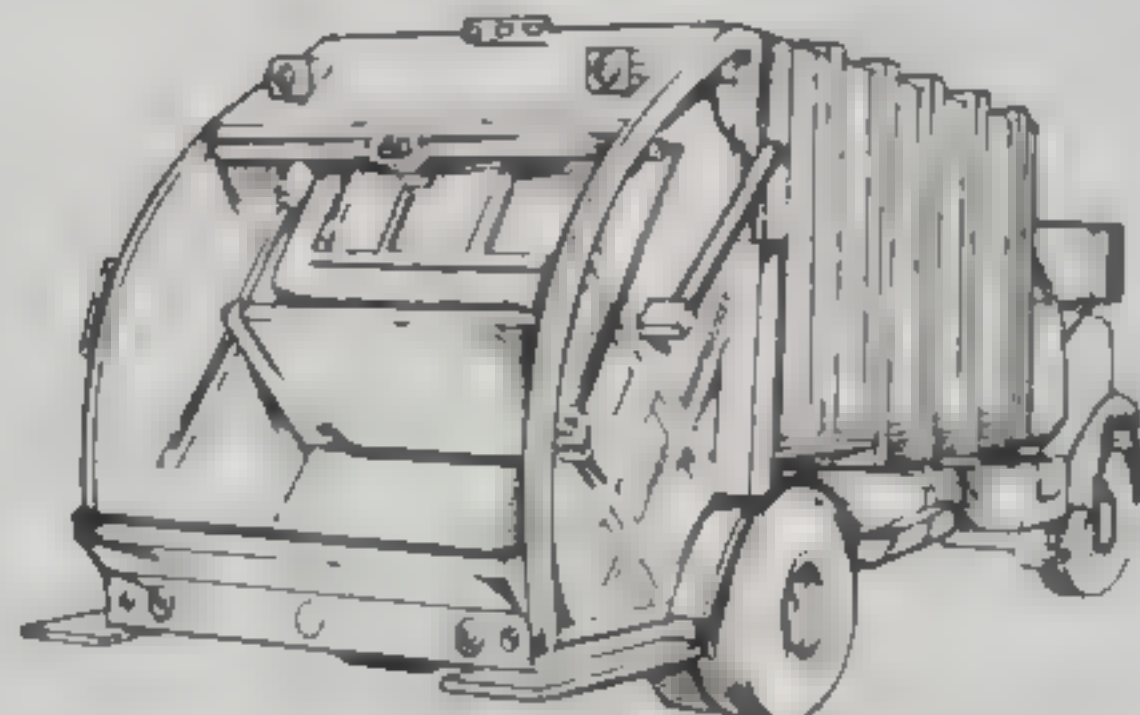
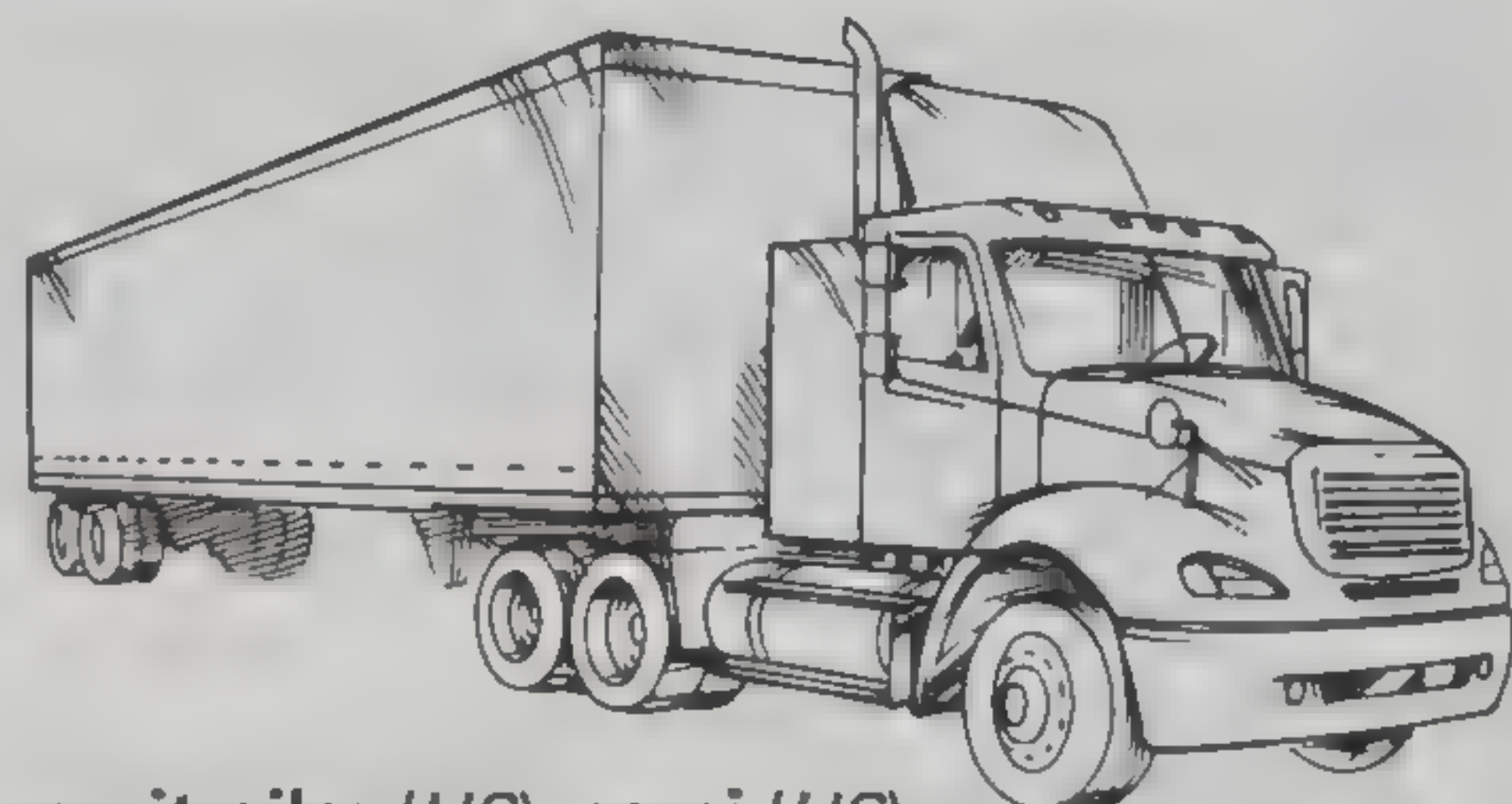
¹**trudge** /'trʌdʒ/ *verb*, *always followed by an adverb or preposition* **trudg-es**; **trudged**; **trudg-ing** [no *obj*] : to walk slow-



truck

pickup,
pickup trucktow truck,
breakdown truck (Brit)

tanker

dump truck (US),
dumper truck (Brit)garbage truck (US),
dustcart (Brit)semitrailer (US), semi (US),
tractor-trailer (US),
articulated lorry (Brit)

ly and heavily because you are tired or working very hard • I was *trudging* through the snow. • She *trudged* up the hill.

²**trudge** *noun* [singular] : a long, slow walk that makes you tired • a *trudge* across the snow

¹**true** /'tru:/ *adj* **tru-er**; **-est** [also more ~; most ~]

1 : agreeing with the facts : not false • a *true* description/statement • Indicate whether each of the following statements is *true* or false. • Their fears proved (to be) *true*. [=turned out to be valid] • If their predictions are *true*, we'll be in for a long winter. • Is it *true* that you were planning to go without me? • Jobs are scarce, and that is especially *true* for managers. • He can be stubborn, but that is *true* of many people. [=many people can be stubborn] • This is a *true* story. [=an account of something that really happened] • The same *holds true* [=is valid] for/in all similar situations.

2 *always used before a noun* : real or genuine • The *true* cost proved to be much higher than they said it would be. • His *true* character/nature was revealed. • the *true* meaning of the term • She let him know her *true* feelings [=the way she really felt]

3 : having all the expected or necessary qualities of a specified type of person or thing • He's a *true* artist/expert. [=he is truly an artist/expert] • a *true* gentleman • From the moment they met they knew it was *true* love [=knew that their love was strong and lasting]

4 : completely loyal or faithful • I am your *true* servant. • *true* friends — often + *to* • He's always been *true* to his wife.

5 : placed or done correctly or perfectly : without error • His aim was *true*. [=he hit the target]

6 *always used before a noun* : rightful, legal, or official • She is the car's *true* [=lawful, legitimate] owner.

7 : exact and accurate : FAITHFUL • The story is a *true* depiction of life in a small town. — often + *to* • The movie is *true* to the book. [=the story told in the movie closely matches the story told in the book]

8 — used to admit that something is correct or true • *True*, prices are rising, but I'm not convinced that the economy is failing. • "It would cost a lot less if we did it ourselves." "(That's) *True*."

9 *not used before a noun, technical* : in a position that is exactly straight, flat, even, etc. • If the cabinet doors are *true*, they will close tightly.

come true : to become real : to happen in the way that you wished or dreamed • Everything we hoped for *came true*. • Their prediction seems to be *coming true*. • The trip abroad was a *dream come true* for her. [=it was something that she really wanted to do and that actually happened]

show your true colors see ¹COLOR

too good to be true see ¹GOOD

true believer : someone who is completely and often foolishly loyal to a person or an idea • She is a *true believer* in the cause.

true to form see ¹FORM

true to life : realistic and natural • The author presents the characters in a way that feels very *true to life*.

true to yourself : acting in a way that agrees with your beliefs or values • He's always *true to himself*. [=he always does what he thinks is right]

true to your word : doing what you said you would do

: keeping your promise • He said he would help, and he was *true to his word*.

— see also TRIED-AND-TRUE

²**true** *adv* : in a straight line • The bullet traveled straight and *true*.

³**true** *noun* [noncount] : the quality or state of being straight, flat, even, etc. • The door is slightly *out of true* [=is not in its correct position]

true-blue *adj*

1 US : completely faithful and loyal to a person or an idea • a *true-blue* patriot

2 Brit, informal : loyal to the ideas of the British Conservative party • *true-blue* Tories

true-life /'tru:'laɪf/ *adj*, *always used before a noun* : based on a real story and not imaginary • a *true-life* adventure/movie/story

true north *noun* [noncount] : north that is calculated by using an imaginary line through the Earth rather than by using a compass : the direction that leads to the North Pole — compare MAGNETIC NORTH

truf-fle /'trʌfəl/ *noun*, *pl* **truf-fles** [count]

1 : a type of fungus that grows under the ground and that is used in cooking

2 : a kind of chocolate candy with a soft center

tru-ism /'tru:ɪzəm/ *noun*, *pl* **-isms** [count] : a true statement that is very commonly heard : a common statement that is obviously true

tru-ly /'tru:li/ *adv* [more ~; most ~]

1 : in an honest manner : SINCERELY • I *truly* believe they can do it. • She's *truly* sorry. • He *truly* enjoyed the concert.

2 : in truth : actually or really • This is *truly* a different situation. • A country is not *truly* democratic until all of its citizens can vote freely. • Is this poll *truly* representative of the voters' intentions?

3 : without question or doubt — used to make a statement more definite or forceful • It's *truly* hot out today. • *truly* amazing/awful/weird

yours truly **1** — used at the end of a letter and before the writer's signature **2** *humorous* — used to refer to yourself • "Who is in charge here?" "Yours *truly*." [=I am]

¹**trump** /'trʌmp/ *noun*, *pl* **trumps**

1 [count] : a card from the suit that has been chosen as the most valuable for a particular card game • I won the trick by playing a *trump*. — called also *trump card*

2 **trumps** [plural] : the suit whose cards are the most valuable for a particular card game • Diamonds are *trumps*.

come/turn up trumps Brit, informal : to do or provide what is necessary in order to succeed • The team *turned up trumps* in the final game and won the championship.

²**trump** *verb* **trumps**; **trumped**; **trump-ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to beat (another card) by playing a card from the suit that beats the other suits : to play a trump card to beat (another card) • She *trumped* my ace to win the trick.

2 **a** : to do better than (someone or something) in a contest, competition, etc. • Their offer for the house was *trumped* by a higher bid. **b** : to be more important than (something) • The need for blood donors *trumps* all other concerns.

trump up [phrasal verb] **trump up** (something) : to create or

make up (something false) in order to cause problems for someone, connect someone to a crime, etc. • She *trumped up* some excuse to fire him. • *trump up* an accusation — see also TRUMPED-UP

trump card *noun*, *pl* ~ **cards** [count]

1 : 'TRUMP 1

2 : something that gives you an advantage • The prosecution's *trump card* is the evidence linking the defendant to the murder weapon. • He *played/used his trump card* during the negotiations.

trumped-up /'trʌmpɪtʰʌp/ *adj* : deliberately done or created to make someone appear to be guilty of a crime • She was arrested on *trumped-up* charges. • *trumped-up* evidence

¹trumpet /'trʌmpət/ *noun*, *pl* -**pets** [count]

1 : a brass musical instrument that you blow into that has three buttons which you press to play different notes — see picture at BRASS INSTRUMENT

2 : something shaped like a trumpet • the *trumpet* of a flower
blow your own trumpet *Brit, informal* : to talk about yourself or your achievements especially in a way that shows that you are proud or too proud • He had a very successful year and has every right to *blow his own trumpet*. [= (US) *blow/toot his own horn*]

²trumpet *verb* -**pets**; -**pet-ed**; -**pet-ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to praise (something) loudly and publicly especially in a way that is annoying • He likes to *trumpet* his own achievements. • The law was *trumpeted* as a solution to everything.

2 [no *obj*] : to make a sound like a trumpet • The elephant *trumpeted* loudly.

trum·pet·er /'trʌmpətə/ *noun*, *pl* -**ers** [count] : a person who plays a trumpet

trun·cate /'trʌŋ,keɪt/ *verb* -**cates**; -**cat-ed**; -**cat-ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to make (something) shorter — often used as (*be*) *truncated* • The essay was *truncated* before it was published. • a *truncated* discussion

– **trun·ca·tion** /trʌŋ'keɪʃən/ *noun* [noncount]

trun·cheon /'trʌŋʃən/ *noun*, *pl* -**cheons** [count] *Brit* : NIGHTSTICK

trun·dle /'trʌndəl/ *verb*, always followed by an adverb or preposition **trun·dles**; **trun·dled**; **trun·dling**

1 **a** [+ *obj*] : to roll (something) on wheels slowly and noisily • She *trundled* her suitcase into the room. **b** [no *obj*] : to move noisily on wheels • Trucks *trundled* through town.

2 [no *obj*] : to walk slowly and heavily • The children *trundled* off to bed.

trundle out [*phrasal verb*] *trundle* (something) out or *trundle out* (something) *Brit, informal + disapproving* : to say (something that has been said before) as an excuse, explanation, etc. • He *trundled out* [=trotted out] another excuse.

trunk /'trʌŋk/ *noun*, *pl* **trunks**

1 [count] : the thick main stem of a tree — see color picture on page C6

2 [count] : the main part of the human body not including the head, arms, and legs : **TORSO**

3 [count] : the main or central part of something • the *trunk* of an artery

4 [count] *US* : the enclosed space in the back of a car for carrying things • He keeps a jack and spare tire in the *trunk*. — called also (*Brit*) *boot*; see picture at **CAR**

5 [count] : a large, strong box used for holding clothes or other things especially for traveling • a *trunk* full of clothes

6 [count] : the long, flexible nose of an elephant

7 **trunks** [*plural*] **a** : SWIMMING TRUNKS **b** : shorts worn by a boxer

trunk call *noun*, *pl* ~ **calls** [count] *Brit, old-fashioned* : TOLL CALL

trunk road *noun*, *pl* ~ **roads** [count] *Brit* : a main road

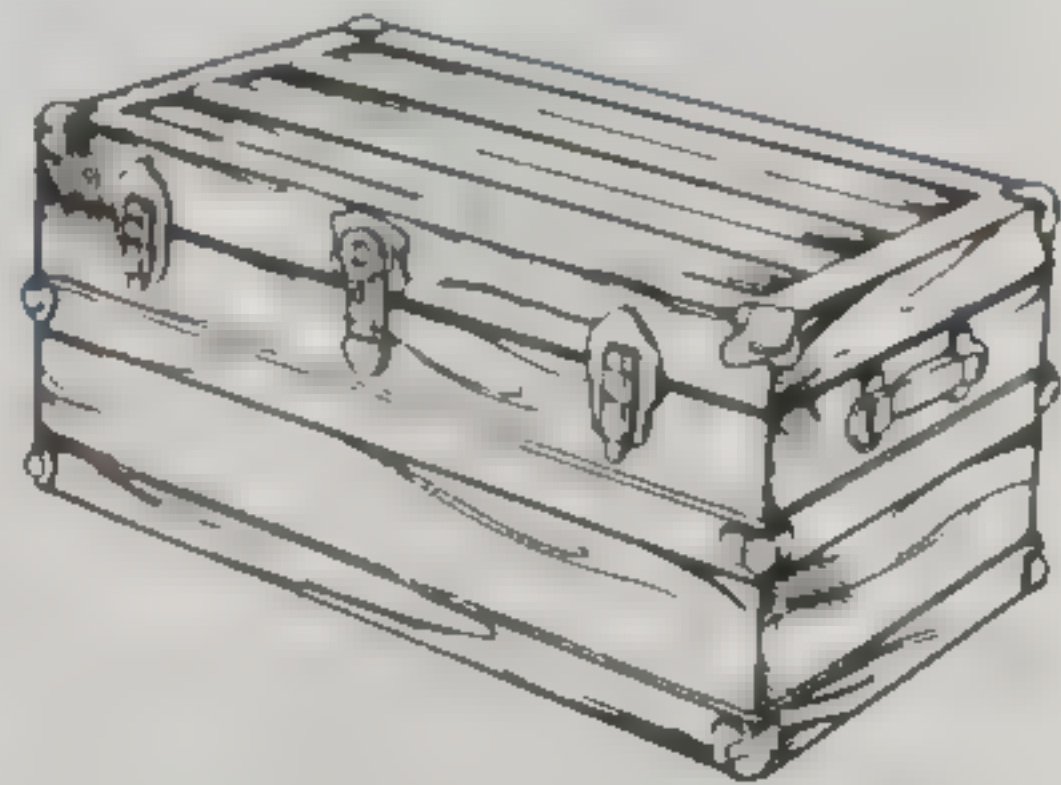
¹truss /'trʌs/ *verb* **truss-es**; **trussed**; **truss-ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to tie up (someone) tightly to prevent movement • The thieves *trussed* [=bound] the guards and stole several paintings. — usually + *up* • The guards were *trussed up* with ropes.

2 : to tie together the wings or legs of (a turkey, chicken, etc.) for cooking • She stuffed and *trussed* the duck.

²truss *noun*, *pl* **trusses** [count]

1 : a strong frame of beams, bars, or rods that supports a roof or bridge



trunk

2 : a special belt that is worn by someone who has a hernia

¹trust /'trʌst/ *noun*, *pl* **trusts**

1 [noncount] : belief that someone or something is reliable, good, honest, effective, etc. • Our relationship is founded on mutual love and *trust*. • His lies and deception shattered my *trust* in him. • She has no *trust* in the security of online banking. • He *placed/put his trust in* [=trusted] his closest friends and few others. • She *betrayed my trust*.

2 **a** : an arrangement in which someone's property or money is legally held or managed by someone else or by an organization (such as a bank) for usually a set period of time [count] He created a *trust* for his children. [noncount] The property will be *held in trust* until her 18th birthday. — see also **TRUST FUND**, **UNIT TRUST**

b [count] : an organization that results from the creation of a trust • a charitable *trust*

3 [count] *chiefly US* : a group of companies that work together to try to control an industry by reducing competition • laws limiting the formation of *trusts*

4 [noncount] : responsibility for the safety and care of someone or something • The child was committed to his *trust*. • We left our pets *in the trust of* [=in the care of] our neighbor while we were gone. • She has been placed in a *position of trust*. [=she has been given a job/position in which she has a lot of responsibility and power]

take something on trust : to believe that something you have been told is true or correct even though you do not have proof of it • I don't know anything about cars so I had to *take* the mechanic's recommendations *on trust*.

— see also **BRAIN TRUST**

²trust *verb* **trusts**; **trust-ed**; **trust-ing** [+ *obj*]

1 **a** : to believe that someone or something is reliable, good, honest, effective, etc. : to have confidence in (someone or something) • Working together is going to be difficult if you don't *trust* each other. • "Are you sure this will work?" "Trust me. I know what I'm doing." • I *trust* him to do the right thing. [=I believe that he will do the right thing because I trust him] • If you have a problem, tell your parent, teacher, or someone else you *trust*. • I should never have *trusted* him. • Their company is a *trusted* name in quality appliances. • I don't *trust* that ladder. [=I don't think that ladder is safe] • She got her cast taken off, but she doesn't quite *trust* her leg yet. [=she doesn't feel confident that her leg is completely strong/healthy yet] **b** : to believe that something is true or correct • Don't *trust* everything you read. • You can't *trust* the rumors. • You should *trust* your instincts/judgment and do what you think is right. • You can *trust* her word. [=you can believe that she will do what she says she will do and that what she says is true]

2 *somewhat formal* : to hope or expect that something is true or will happen — often used to politely tell someone what you think they should do • I *trust* that you'll pay me for the broken window. • All of this will be cleaned up by the time I get back, I *trust*.

trust in [*phrasal verb*] *trust in* (someone or something) *formal* : to have a strong belief in the goodness or ability of (someone or something) : to have trust in (someone or something) • They *trust in* God. • It is important that they *trust in* themselves and their abilities.

trust to [*phrasal verb*] 1 *trust to* (something) : to rely on (something you have no control over, such as luck or chance) to get what you want or need • We can't control what happens. All we can do at this point is hope for the best and *trust to* luck. • You're more likely to make friends if you seek them out rather than simply *trusting to* chance.

2 *trust* (something) to (someone) : to give the responsibility of doing (something) to (someone) • They *trusted* the care of their daughter to her grandparents while they were on vacation.

trust with [*phrasal verb*] *trust* (someone) with (something) : to allow (someone) to have or use (something valuable) • They *trusted* their son with the family car. • I *trusted* the reporter with my story.

trust·ee /,trʌ'sti:/ *noun*, *pl* -**ees** [count]

1 : a person or organization that has been given responsibility for managing someone else's property or money through a trust • They were named as *trustees* to the child's estate.

2 : a member of a group that manages the money of an organization • the museum's/school's *board of trustees*

trust·ee·ship /,trʌ'sti:,ʃɪp/ *noun*, *pl* -**ships**

1 [count, noncount] : the position or job of a trustee

2 [noncount] : control over an area of land given to a country or countries by the United Nations

trust fund *noun*, *pl* ~ **funds** [count] : money that belongs to one person but is legally held or managed by another person or by an organization • She paid for college out of a *trust fund* set up for her by her grandfather.

trust-ing /'trʌstɪŋ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : tending to believe that other people are honest, good, etc. • He is too naive and *trusting* and often lets people take advantage of him.

trust-wor-thy /'trʌst,wɔːði/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : able to be relied on to do or provide what is needed or right : deserving of trust • *trustworthy* friends • a *trustworthy* [=dependable] news source

— **trust-wor-thi-ness** *noun* [noncount]

¹**trusty** /'trʌsti/ *adj*, always used before a noun **trust-i-er**; **-est** [also more ~; most ~] : able to be depended on — used especially to describe a useful tool, device, etc., that you have had and used for a long time • I never go anywhere without my *trusty* pocketknife.

²**trusty** *noun*, *pl* **trust-ies** [count] *US* : a prisoner who is trusted and given special privileges because of good behavior

truth /'truːθ/ *noun*, *pl* **truths** /'truːðz, 'truːθs/

¹ **the truth** : the real facts about something : the things that are true • Are you telling (me) *the truth*? • At some point you have to face *the* simple/hard/honest/plain/naked *truth* that we failed. • Their explanation was simpler but came closer to *the truth*. • The article explains *the truth* about global warming. • A reporter soon discovered/revealed/uncovered *the truth*. • Do you swear to tell *the whole truth* and nothing but *the truth*? • I know you think I don't care, but *nothing could be further from the truth*. [=that is absolutely not true] • *The truth of the matter is (that)* you failed the exam and it's going to be reflected in your final grade. • *To tell (you) the truth*, I liked her first book better than this one. [=I am being honest when I say that I liked her first book better] • "When was the last time you went to New York?" "*To tell you the truth*, I don't remember." [=I have to admit that I don't remember] • I told her I liked the restaurant but *the truth* is that the food was pretty bad. = I told her I liked the restaurant but, *truth be told/known*, the food was pretty bad.

² [noncount] : the quality or state of being true • There's no *truth* in anything he says. [=nothing he says is true] • I doubt the *truth* of their accusations. [=I doubt that their accusations are true] • Her story contains a *grain/kernel of truth* but also lots of exaggeration.

³ [count] : a statement or idea that is true or accepted as true — usually plural • Her experience taught her some basic/fundamental/eternal/universal *truths* about human nature. • mathematical *truths* — see also HALF-TRUTH, HOME TRUTH, UNTRUTH

bend the truth see ¹BEND

in truth : in fact : actually or really • She said she was feeling fine, but *in truth* she was very ill.

moment of truth see MOMENT

truth-ful /'truːθfəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

¹ : telling the truth : HONEST • She is a very *truthful* person. [=she says things that are true; she doesn't lie] • We were not entirely *truthful* with her about where we went last night. • I like keeping the house clean but, *to be truthful*, I hate vacuuming.

² : containing or expressing the truth • *truthful* remarks • *truthful* information • Why can't you give me a *truthful* [=honest] answer? • The documentary tries its hardest to be *truthful* to actual events. [=to show what actually happened]

— **truth-ful-ly** /'truːθfəli/ *adv* • He told us *truthfully* [=honestly] that he had been in the hospital for mental illness. • *Truthfully*, she deserves most of the credit. [=I am being honest when I say that she deserves most of the credit]

— **truth-ful-ness** *noun* [noncount]

¹**try** /'traɪ/ *verb* **tries**; **tried**; **try-ing**

¹ : to make an effort to do something : to attempt to accomplish or complete something [no obj] I don't know if I can do it, but I'll *try*. • Keep *trying*. You can do it. • You can do it if you *try* hard enough. • "He said he can beat you." "I'd like to see him *try*!" • I *tried*, but I just couldn't do it. • "She's not in the office now." "OK. I'll *try* again later." • If you don't succeed the first time, *try*, (and) *try again*. • He still hasn't found a job, but *it is not for lack/want of trying*. [=he has been trying to find a job but he has not found one] [+ obj] I *tried my best/hardest* [=I tried very hard, I did everything that I could do], but I just couldn't do it. — often followed by *to* + *verb* • He *tried to move* the sofa by himself. • Please *try not to make* any noise. • I was only *trying to help*! • You should *try to exercise* more. — often followed by *and* + *verb* •

Try and relax. • *Try and think of another example.* **synonyms** see ¹ATTEMPT

² [+ obj] : to do or use (something) in order to see if it works or will be successful • I don't know where she is. *Try* calling her on her cell phone. • *Try* her cell phone. • He *tried* a few things to remove the stain, but nothing worked. • *Try* (pressing) that button. • Did you *try* restarting the computer? • If you want to lose weight, *try* exercising more. • She *tried* a karate move on him. • He *tried* the switch, and the lights flickered on. • I *tried* (opening) the door, but it was locked. • No, we don't sell those. *Try* the store across the street. • I *tried* several hotels, but there were no rooms available. — often + *out* • If you can't solve the problem, you should *try out* a different approach.

³ [+ obj] **a** : to do or use (something) in order to find out if you like it • He never wants to *try* anything new. • I *tried* skiing for the first time last winter. • Have you ever *tried* teaching? — often + *out* • He decided to *try* the car *out*. • She has *tried out* many different jobs but can't find one she likes. **b** : to taste (food or drink) to find out what it is like • You should *try* the cake. It's excellent. • "Would you like to *try* some caviar?" "Sure—I'll *try* anything once." • *Try* a little bite.

⁴ [+ obj] : to test how good, strong, etc., something or someone is • "These are the times that *try* men's souls." —Thomas Paine, "The Crisis" (1776) • "Oh, you probably don't know the answer!" "*Try me.*" [=ask me the question] • You are *trying my patience*. [=you are making me lose my patience and become angry]

⁵ [+ obj] **a** : to examine and make a decision about (a legal case) — usually used as (be) *tried* • The case *was tried* in a federal court. **b** : to have a trial to decide if someone is innocent or guilty — usually used as (be) *tried for* • He *was tried for* murder. [=he was put on trial for murder]

try for [phrasal verb] **try for (something)** : to make an attempt or effort to get (something) • You've already won \$100. Do you want to *try for* more? • He *tried for* second place but finished third instead. • She *tried for* the job and got it. • They have been *trying for a baby* [=trying to have a baby] for several years.

try it on Brit, informal ¹ : to behave badly so that someone becomes annoyed or angry — often + *with* • Don't take any notice of him—he's only *trying it on with* you. ² : to try to start a sexual relationship with someone — often + *with* • He *tried it on with* a girl at the pub.

try on [phrasal verb] **try on (something) or try (something) on** : to put on (a piece of clothing, a pair of shoes, etc.) in order to see how it fits and looks • This is the fifth dress you've *tried on*. • *Try* this shoe *on for size*. [=put on this shoe to see if it is the correct size]

try out [phrasal verb] **chiefly US** : to compete for a position on an athletic team or a part in a play • She *tried out* [=auditioned] and got the lead role. — often + *for* • He *tried out for* the golf team. — see also ¹TRY 2, 3 (above), TRYOUT

try your damndest see DAMNEDEST

try your hand see ¹HAND

try your luck see ¹LUCK

²**try** *noun*, *pl* **tries** [count]

¹ : an effort or attempt to do something — usually singular • I doubt it will work, but it's *worth a try*. • *Nice try*. I'm sure you'll do better next time. • "I can't open this jar." "Let me *have a try* at it." [=let me try to open it] • You should *give* skydiving *a try*. • (*US, old-fashioned*) We can win this game if we *give it the old college try*! [=if we give our very best effort and try very hard to win]

² *rugby* : a play in which points are scored by touching the ground with the ball behind the opponent's goal line • He scored a *try*.

trying *adj* [more ~; most ~] : difficult to deal with • They have been through some *trying* times together. • He can be very *trying* at times.

try-out /'traɪ,aut/ *noun*, *pl* **-outs** [count]

¹ *US* : a test of someone's ability to do something that is used to see if he or she should join a team, perform in a play, etc. • She was cut from the team after the first *tryout*. [= (*Brit*) *trial*] • Open *tryouts* for the team are next Monday.

² **chiefly Brit** : a test of the quality, value, or usefulness of something • The car did not do well in its *tryout*. [=trial] — often used before another noun • I have a 30-day free *tryout* period before I have to start paying for the service.

— see also *try out* at ¹TRY

tryst /'trɪst/ *noun*, *pl* **trysts** [count] *literary* : a meeting by lovers at a secret time or place

tsar, tsarina, tsarist *variant spellings of* CZAR, CZARINA, CZARIST

tset-se fly /'setsi-, 'si:tsi-/ *noun, pl ~ flies* [count] : a kind of fly found in Africa that bites people and animals, sucks their blood, and can spread a serious disease (called sleeping sickness) to humans — called also *tsetse*

T-shirt *also tee shirt* /'ti:,ʃət/ *noun, pl T-shirts also tee shirts* [count] : a shirt that has short sleeves and no collar and that is usually made of cotton — see color picture on page C14

tsk tsk /ə 'clicking sound, often read as 'tsk,tsk/ *interj* — used to show disapproval often in a humorous way • *Tsk tsk! Who left the cap off the toothpaste?*

tsp. *abbr* teaspoon, teaspoonful

T square *noun, pl ~ squares* [count] : a tool that is shaped like the letter T and that is used to draw parallel lines and right angles

TSS *abbr* toxic shock syndrome

tsu-na-mi /su'na:mi/ *noun, pl -mis* [count] : a very high, large wave in the ocean that is usually caused by an earthquake under the sea and that can cause great destruction when it reaches land : TIDAL WAVE

Tu. *abbr* Tuesday

tub /'tʌb/ *noun, pl tubs* [count]

1 : a wide container used to hold something • a *tub* of margarine/butter • We let the pans soak overnight in a *tub* of soapy water. — see also WASHTUB

2 *US* : BATHTUB • The bathroom has a shower and *tub*. — see also HOT TUB

3 : the amount that a tub will hold • She ate the whole *tub* of ice cream.

tu-ba /'tu:bə, Brit 'tju:bə/ *noun, pl -bas* [count] : a large brass musical instrument that is played by blowing air into it and that produces low tones — see picture at BRASS INSTRUMENT

tub-by /'tʌbi/ *adj tub-bi-er; -est informal* : short and somewhat fat • a *tubby* little kid

tube /'tu:b, Brit 'tju:b/ *noun, pl tubes*

1 [count] **a** : a long, hollow object that is used especially to control the flow of a liquid or gas • She was breathing oxygen through a *tube*. • The nurse inserted a *feeding tube*. [=a tube used to deliver food to the stomach of a patient who cannot eat] **b** : an object shaped like a pipe • a *tube* of lipstick • a cardboard *tube* — see also INNER TUBE, TEST TUBE, VACUUM TUBE

2 [count] : a soft, long, narrow container that has a small opening at one end and that contains a soft material which can be pushed out by squeezing • a *tube* of paint/toothpaste

3 [count] : a thin, long, hollow part within an animal or plant • the bronchial *tubes* • a pollen *tube*

4 *the tube* *US, informal* : the television • They spent all afternoon sitting in front of *the tube*. [= (Brit) the box] • What's on *the tube* tonight? — see also BOOB TUBE, CATHODE-RAY TUBE

5 [noncount] *Brit* : the system of trains that run underground in London • It's easy to get around London on *the tube*. • There's a *tube station* a couple of blocks away from here. • She travels *by tube* to work every day.

go down the tubes informal **1** : to fail or become ruined • His health is *going down the tubes*. **2** : to be wasted or lost • All my hard work *went down the tubes*. [=went down the drain]

— **tube-like** /'tu:b,laɪk, Brit 'tju:b,laɪk/ *adj* • The plant produces *tubelike* flowers.

tu-ber /'tu:bə, Brit 'tju:bə/ *noun, pl -bers* [count] : a short, thick, round stem that is a part of certain plants (such as the potato), that grows underground, and that can produce a new plant

— **tu-ber-ous** /'tu:bərəs, Brit 'tju:bərəs/ *adj* • *tuberous* roots

tu-ber-cu-lo-sis /tu,bə'kjə'lousəs, Brit tju,bə'kjə'ləusəs/ *noun* [noncount] *medical* : a serious disease that mainly affects the lungs — called also *TB*, (old-fashioned) *consumption*

— **tu-ber-cu-lar** /tu'bəkjələ, Brit tju'bəkjələ/ *adj* • a *tubercular* infection/cough — **tu-ber-cu-lous** /tu'bəkjələs, Brit tju'bəkjələs/ *adj* • a *tuberculous* patient

tube sock *noun, pl ~ socks* [count] *US* : a long sock that is shaped like a tube without a place for your heel and that is often worn while playing sports

tube top *noun, pl ~ tops* [count] *US* : a piece of clothing for women and girls that is shaped like a tube and that covers

the chest and back but not the shoulders or arms — called also (Brit) *boob tube*

tub-ing /'tu:biŋ, Brit 'tju:biŋ/ *noun* [noncount]

1 : material in the form of a tube : a series or system of tubes • The fluids travel through flexible plastic/rubber *tubing*.

2 : the activity of riding on an inner tube over snow, down a river, etc. • We *go tubing* on the river every summer.

tub-thumping *noun* [noncount] *chiefly Brit* : the activity of talking about someone or something that you support in a loud and forceful manner

— **tub-thump-er** /'tʌb,θʌmpə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count]
— **tub-thumping** *adj, always used before a noun* • *tub-thumping radicals*

tu-bu-lar /'tu:bjələ, Brit 'tju:bjələ/ *adj*

1 : having the form of a tube • *tubular* flowers/pasta

2 : made of a tube or tubes • a *tubular* chair • a radiator of *tubular* construction

¹tuck /'tʌk/ *verb tucks; tucked; tuck-ing*

1 [+ *obj*] : to push the end of (something, such as a piece of cloth or paper) into or behind something in order to hold it in place, make it look neat, etc. • *Tuck* in your shirt. [=push the bottom of your shirt into the waist of your pants or skirt] • She hadn't sealed the envelope, but had simply *tucked* in the flap. • Instead of tying his shoes, he just *tucked* the laces inside. • The sheets were *tucked* tightly under the mattress.

2 [+ *obj*] **a** : to put (something) in a particular place usually to hide it, hold it, or make it safe • A bag was *tucked* under her arm. • She *tucked* her hair up under her hat. • The dog *tucked* its tail between its legs and slinked away. • The bird slept with its head *tucked* under its wing. — often + *away* • The apartment is tiny so he keeps the dog's bed *tucked away* all day until he brings it out at night. — sometimes used figuratively • They manage to *tuck away* [=save] a portion of their paychecks every month. **b** — used as *tucked* to indicate the quiet or hidden place where something is located • They live in a log cabin *tucked* among the trees. — often + *away* • The Vietnamese restaurant is *tucked away* on a quiet street. [=is located on a quiet street]

3 *Brit, informal* : to eat with pleasure [+ *obj*] — + *away* • He *tucked away* a big lunch. [no *obj*] — + *in* or *into* • We all *tucked in* [=started eating eagerly] as soon as the food was served. • We all *tucked into* the delicious food.

tuck in or chiefly Brit tuck up [phrasal verb] **tuck (someone) in/up** : to make (someone, such as a child) comfortable in bed by moving the blankets to the right positions • I *tucked* him *in* and kissed him good night. • The children are *tucked up* in bed for the night.

²tuck *noun, pl tucks* [count]

1 : a fold that is sewn into a piece of clothing or fabric • The skirt is bordered with satin *tucks*.

2 : an operation to remove extra skin or fat from a part of the body • a tummy *tuck*

— see also NIP AND TUCK

tuck-er /'tʌkə/ *verb -ers; -ered; -er-ing*

tucker out *US, informal* : to cause (someone) to become very tired • Raking all the leaves *tuckered* me out. — often used as (be) *tuckered out* • We were all *tuckered out* by the hard work.

Tu-dor /'tu:də, Brit 'tju:də/ *adj* : relating to the period of British history from 1485 to 1603 • *Tudor* England • the *Tudor* monarchs • a *Tudor* mansion

Tues. or Tue. *abbr* Tuesday

Tues-day /'tu:z,deɪ, Brit 'tju:z,deɪ/ *noun, pl -days* : the day of the week between Monday and Wednesday [count] I had lunch with her last *Tuesday*. • I'll be seeing her again next *Tuesday*. • The class meets on *Tuesdays*. [=every Tuesday] • My birthday falls on a *Tuesday* this year. • (Brit) Next week I'll arrive on the *Tuesday* and leave on the Friday. [non-count] Next week I'll arrive on *Tuesday* and leave on Friday. • The paper is due on *Tuesday*. = (chiefly US) The paper is due *Tuesday*. • I will arrive on *Tuesday* morning. — *abbr.* *Tues., Tue., or Tu.*; see also SHROVE TUESDAY

— **Tues-days** /'tu:z,deɪz, Brit 'tju:z,deɪz/ *adv* • He works late *Tuesdays*. [=he works late every Tuesday]

tuft /'tʌft/ *noun, pl tufts* [count] : a small bunch of feathers, hairs, grass, etc., that grow close together • *tufts* of grass • A *tuft* of hair stuck out from under his hat.

tuft-ed /'tʌftəd/ *adj* : having a tuft or tufts • The fox has large *tufted* ears.

¹tug /'tʌg/ *verb tugs; tugged; tug-ging* : to pull something with a quick, forceful movement [no *obj*] I felt someone *tug-*

ging on/at my sleeve. [+ *obj*] She *tugged* the cord until the plug came out of the wall socket.

tug your forelock see FORELOCK

²**tug** *noun, pl tugs* [count]

1 : an act of pulling on something : a quick pull • He felt a gentle *tug* on his sleeve. • She gave the rope a *tug*. [=she tugged the rope]

2 : a strong pulling force — usually singular • the *tug* of gravity — often used figuratively • The *tug* of urban life drew him from his country home and into the city.

3 : TUGBOAT

tug-boat /'tʌg,bəʊt/ *noun, pl -boats* [count] : a small, powerful boat that is used for pulling and pushing ships especially into harbors or up rivers — called also *tug*

tug-of-love *noun* [singular] *Brit* : a situation in which two divorced or separated parents are in a legal fight about who will take care of their child or children • a bitter *tug-of-love* [=custody battle]

tug-of-war /,tʌgəv'wɔ:/ *noun, pl tugs-of-war*

1 [singular] : a contest in which two teams pull against each other at opposite ends of a rope

2 [count] : a struggle between two people or groups to win control or possession of something — usually singular • The two countries have been involved in a *tug-of-war* over control of the region.

tu-ition /tə'wɪʃən, Brit tju'ɪʃən/ *noun* [noncount]

1 : money that is paid to a school for the right to study there • Her uncle agreed to pay part of her *tuition*. • There's going to be a *tuition* increase next year. • *tuition* fees

2 *formal* : teaching that is done especially for a single person or small group • Before the company transferred her to Mexico, they offered her private *tuition* in Spanish.

tu-lip /'tu:lɪp, Brit 'tju:lɪp/ *noun, pl -lips* [count] : a large, bright flower that is shaped like a cup and that grows in the spring — see color picture on page C6

tulle /'tu:l/ *noun* [noncount] : a light, thin type of cloth that is like a net and that is used for veils, evening dresses, etc.

tum /'tʌm/ *noun, pl tums* [count] *Brit, informal* : your stomach or belly • She pulled her shirt down over her *tum*. [=tummy]

¹**tum-ble** /'tʌmbəl/ *verb* **tum-bles; tum-bled; tum-bling** [no *obj*]

1 a : to fall down suddenly and quickly • He tripped and *tumbled* to the ground. • The abandoned house finally *tumbled* [=collapsed] to the ground. • The statue *came tumbling down* during the riots. **b** : to fall forward while turning over • The satellite was *tumbling* out of control. • She slipped and *tumbled* down the hill/steps.

2 : to fall or drop suddenly in amount, value, etc. • Stock prices *tumbled* today.

3 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to move in a fast, confused, or uncontrolled way • Everyone *came tumbling* out of the bar at closing time. • He *tumbled* into bed and fell asleep. • Water *tumbled* over the rocks.

4 : to roll or turn your body across the ground or through the air while performing a series of athletic movements • *tumbling* acrobats/gymnasts

5 of hair : to fall or hang down loosely • Her long, curly hair *tumbled* down her back.

tumble to [*phrasal verb*] **tumble to (something)** *Brit, informal* : to understand or become aware of (something) • They didn't *tumble to* [=realize] the seriousness of the problem. • I thought you'd *tumble to* what I'd meant.

²**tumble** *noun, pl tumbles* [count]

1 : an act of falling or tumbling • She *took a tumble* down the stairs. [=she fell down the stairs] • The value of the stock has *taken a tumble* [=has gone down] in recent weeks. — see also ROUGH-AND-TUMBLE

2 : an athletic movement in which you roll or turn your body across the ground or through the air • gymnasts doing *tumbles*

tum-ble-down /'tʌmbəl,daʊn/ *adj, always used before a noun, of a building* : in bad condition : ready to fall down • a *tumbledown* [=dilapidated] shack

tumble dry *verb* ~ **dries; ~ dried; ~ drying** [+ *obj*] : to dry (clothes, sheets, etc.) in a machine • He *tumble dried* his clothes on high heat.

tumble dryer or **tumble drier** *noun, pl ~ -ers* [count] *Brit* : a machine used for drying clothes after they are washed • He dried his clothes in the *tumble dryer*. [= (US) dryer]

tum-bler /'tʌmblə/ *noun, pl tum-blers* [count]

1 a : a glass used for drinking that has a flat bottom and no

stem or handle • a water *tumbler* **b** : the amount of liquid held in a tumbler • She drank a *tumbler* of water.

2 : a person who performs athletic movements that involve rolling or turning along the ground or through the air • circus *tumblers* [=acrobats] • a gymnast who's a skillful *tumbler*

tum-ble-weed /'tʌmbəl,wɪd/ *noun, pl -weeds* [count, noncount] : a plant found especially in the North American desert that breaks away from its roots and is blown across the ground by the wind

tu-mes-cent /tu'mesnt, Brit tju'mesnt/ *adj, technical* : somewhat swollen • *tumescant* tissue

— **tu-mes-cence** /tu'mesns, Brit tju'mesns/ *noun* [noncount]

tum-my /'tʌmi/ *noun, pl -mies* [count] *informal* : your stomach or belly • His mother rubbed his *tummy* until he fell asleep. • She woke up with a *tummy* ache. [=a stomachache] — usually used by children or when speaking to children

tu-mor (US) or **Brit tu-mour** /'tu:mə, Brit 'tju:mə/ *noun, pl -mors* [count] : a mass of tissue found in or on the body that is made up of abnormal cells • a brain *tumor* • cancerous *tumors* • a benign/malignant *tumor*

tu-mult /'tu:,mʌlt, Brit 'tju:,mʌlt/ *noun, pl -mults* *formal*

1 : a state of noisy confusion or disorder [count] A great *tumult* [=uproar, commotion] arose in the street. • We had to shout to be heard over the *tumult*. [noncount] The country was in *tumult*.

2 : a state of great mental or emotional confusion [noncount] emotional *tumult* [=turmoil] [count] Her mind was in a *tumult* of emotions.

tu-mul-tu-ous /tu'mʌltʃəwəs, Brit tju'mʌltʃəwəs/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : loud, excited, and emotional • The returning astronauts were given a *tumultuous* welcome. • The room filled with *tumultuous* applause.

2 : involving a lot of violence, confusion, or disorder • the nation's *tumultuous* past

— **tu-mul-tu-ous-ly** *adv* — **tu-mul-tu-ous-ness** *noun* [noncount]

tu-na /'tu:nə, Brit 'tju:nə/ *noun, pl tuna* also *tunas*

1 [count] : a large fish that lives in the ocean and is eaten as food — see color picture on page C8

2 [noncount] : the meat of a tuna that is eaten as food • a can of *tuna* • We ordered grilled/blackened *tuna* for dinner. • canned/fresh *tuna* — often used before another noun • *tuna* steaks • a *tuna* casserole • *tuna* salad — called also *tuna fish*

tun-dra /'tʌndrə/ *noun, pl -dras* [count, noncount] : a large area of flat land in northern parts of the world where there are no trees and the ground is always frozen • the Canadian *tundra*

¹**tune** /'tu:n, Brit 'tju:n/ *noun, pl tunes* [count] : a series of musical notes that produce a pleasing sound when played or sung • I can't get that *tune* [=song] out of my head. • an upbeat dance *tune* • He played a delightful little *tune* [=melody] on the piano. • The concert featured popular Broadway *show tunes*. [=songs from musicals]

call the tune *informal* : to be in charge or control of something • She *called the tune* all through the meeting.

change your tune or **sing a different tune** *informal* : to change the way you talk about something : to have a different opinion about something • He bragged that the test was easy, but when he saw his grade he *changed his tune*. • Now he's *singing a different tune*. • They say they're not worried about money, but once they see how much the new equipment will cost, they'll be *singing a different tune*.

dance to someone's tune see ¹DANCE

in tune **1** : in a state in which the correct musical sound is played or sung • The guitar was *in tune*. **2 a** : in a state in which people agree with or understand one another • The president and his followers were clearly *in tune*. — usually + *with* • They were clearly *in tune with* each other. • The speaker was very much *in tune with* our concerns. [=understood and shared our concerns] • The new supervisor is not *in tune with* the needs of the staff. [=does not understand/appreciate the needs of the staff] **b** : in a state in which one thing agrees with or matches another — usually + *with* • His formal clothing was *in tune with* the occasion.

out of tune **1** : in a state in which the correct musical sound is not played or sung • The piano was *out of tune*. **2 a** : in a state in which people do not agree with or understand one another — usually + *with* • His speech was completely *out of tune with* our concerns. **b** : in a state in which one thing does not agree with or match another —

usually + *with* • His values are *out of tune with* the times.

to the tune of 1 : using the tune of (a particular song) • Amusing lyrics were sung *to the tune of* [=to the music of the song] "New York, New York." 2 *informal* — used to emphasize a large amount of money • A telecommunications company funded the event *to the tune of* [=at a cost of] several million dollars.

²**tune** *verb* **tunes; tuned; tun·ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to adjust (a musical instrument) so that it makes the correct sound when played • I *tuned* my guitar/violin. • The piano needs to be *tuned*.

2 [+ *obj*] : to make small changes to (something) in order to make it work better • We *tuned* our bikes before the road trip. • The mechanic *tuned* the engine. — often + *up* • The mechanic *tuned up* the engine. — see also FINE-TUNE, TUNE-UP

3 : to adjust (a radio or television) so that it receives a broadcast clearly [+ *obj*] The copilot *tuned* the radio to hear the message. — often used as (*be*) *tuned* • The televisions in the store *were all tuned (in)* to the same channel. [*no obj*] — + *to* • He *tuned (in)* to the news channel.

stay tuned : to keep watching a television show or listening to a radio broadcast • *Stay tuned* for more after this word from our sponsors. • *Stay tuned* for a news update. — often used figuratively • *Stay tuned* for a new and improved version of the software. [=a new and improved version of the software will be available soon]

tune in [*phrasal verb*] 1 : to watch a television show or listen to a radio broadcast • *Tune in* next week for the conclusion. • Millions of listeners/viewers *tuned in* for coverage of the presidential debate. • We *tuned in* to hear the results of the election. 2 *be tuned in* : to understand and be aware of a situation, other people's needs, etc. — usually + *to* • He *was not tuned in to* the needs of his staff.

tune out [*phrasal verb*] *informal* 1 : to stop paying attention to what other people are saying or doing : to become unaware of what is happening around you • I could tell he *was tuning out* because when I asked him for his opinion, he had no idea what I was talking about. 2 *tune (someone or something) out* or *tune out (someone or something)* : to ignore or not listen to (someone or something) • She *tuned out* the noise and concentrated on her work. • There was a loud group at the restaurant, but we were able to *tune them out*.

tune-ful /'tu:nfəl, Brit 'tju:nfəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having a pleasant musical sound • a *tune-ful* song/melody/ballad — **tune-ful-ly** *adv* — **tune-ful-ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

tune-less /'tu:nləs, Brit 'tju:nləs/ *adj* : not having a pleasant musical sound : not *tune-ful* • *tune-less* humming — **tune-less-ly** *adv* — **tune-less-ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

tun·er /'tu:nə, Brit 'tju:nə/ *noun*, *pl* -ers [*count*]

1 : a person who tunes musical instruments • a piano *tuner*
2 : an electronic device that changes radio signals into sounds or images • an AM-FM *tuner* • televisions with digital *tuners*

tune-up /'tu:nʌp, Brit 'tju:nʌp/ *noun*, *pl* -ups [*count*] *chiefly* US

1 : a process in which small changes are made to something (such as an engine) in order to make it work better • Regular *tune-ups* kept the car running smoothly. • My car needs a *tune-up*.

2 : an event or activity that helps you practice or prepare for a more important event or activity • Preseason games are *tune-ups* for the regular season.

tung-sten /'tʌŋstən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a hard metal that is used to make the thin wire in light bulbs and to harden other metals (such as steel)

tu·nic /'tu:nɪk, Brit 'tju:nɪk/ *noun*, *pl* -nics [*count*]

1 : a loose piece of clothing usually without sleeves that reaches to the knees and that was worn by men and women in ancient Greece and Rome

2 : a long shirt worn by women that reaches to or just below the hips

3 : a long jacket with a high collar worn by soldiers, police officers, etc.

tuning fork *noun*, *pl* ~ forks [*count*] : a metal device that has two long points, that produces a particular note when it is hit, and that is used to tune musical instruments

tuning peg *noun*, *pl* ~ pegs [*count*] : ¹PEG 2

¹**tun·nel** /'tʌnl/ *noun*, *pl* -nels [*count*] : a passage that goes under the ground, through a hill, etc. • an underground *tunnel* • The train goes through a *tunnel* in the mountain. • The

moles dug *tunnels* in the yard.

a light at the end of the tunnel see ¹LIGHT

— see also CARPAL TUNNEL SYNDROME, WIND TUNNEL

²**tunnel** *verb* -nels; US -neled or Brit -nelled; US -nel·ing or Brit -nel·ling : to make a tunnel [*no obj*] Workers are *tunneling* through the hill. • Insects had *tunneled* into the tree. [+ *obj*] The prisoners tried to *tunnel* their way out. [=tried to escape by digging a tunnel]

tunnel vision *noun* [*noncount*]

1 *medical* : a condition in which you can see things that are straight ahead of you but not to the side

2 *often disapproving* : a tendency to think only about one thing and to ignore everything else • His *tunnel vision* made sensible discussions on political issues nearly impossible.

tun·ny /'tʌni/ *noun*, *pl* *tunny* [*count*, *noncount*] Brit : TUNA

tup-pence /'tʌpəns/ *noun* [*noncount*] Brit : TWOPENCE

tur-ban /'təbən/ *noun*, *pl* -bans [*count*] : a head covering that is worn especially by men in some parts of the Middle East and in southern Asia and that is made of a long cloth wrapped around the head

— **tur-baned** /'təbənd/ *adj* • a *turbaned* cleric

tur-bid /'təbəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal*, of a liquid : not clean or clear : cloudy or muddy • *turbid* waters • a *turbid* stream

— **tur-bid-i-ty** /,tə'bidəti/ *noun* [*noncount*]

tur-bine /'təbən/ *noun*, *pl* -bines [*count*] : an engine that has a part with blades that are caused to spin by pressure from water, steam, or air — see also WIND TURBINE

tur-bo /'təbou/ *noun*, *pl* -bos [*count*] : TURBOCHARGER

tur-bo-charged /'təbou,tʃɑ:dʒd/ *adj* : having a turbo-charger • *turbocharged* engines

tur-bo-charg·er /'təbou,tʃɑ:dʒə/ *noun*, *pl* -ers [*count*] : a device that supplies air to an engine at a higher pressure than normal to increase the engine's power

tur-bo-jet /'təbou,dʒet/ *noun*, *pl* -jets [*count*] : an airplane that has a turbojet engine

turbojet engine *noun*, *pl* ~ -gines [*count*] : a type of powerful jet engine

tur-bo-prop /'təbou,pra:p/ *noun*, *pl* -props [*count*] : an airplane that has a turboprop engine

turboprop engine *noun*, *pl* ~ -gines [*count*] : a type of powerful engine that has a turbine which spins a propeller

tur-bot /'təbət/ *noun*, *pl* *turbot* also *tur-bots* [*count*, *noncount*] : a large European fish that is eaten as food

tur-bu-lence /'təbjələns/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : sudden, violent movements of air or water • The plane hit quite a bit of *turbulence* during our flight.

2 : a state of confusion, violence, or disorder • A period of *turbulence* preceded the riots. • political/economic/emotional *turbulence*

tur-bu-lent /'təbjələnt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : moving in an irregular or violent way • *Turbulent* waters caused the boat to capsize.

2 : full of confusion, violence, or disorder : not stable or steady • The sixties were a *turbulent* period in American history. • a *turbulent* relationship

— **tur-bu-lent-ly** *adv*

turd /'tɜd/ *noun*, *pl* *turds* [*count*] *informal* + *impolite*

1 : a piece of solid waste passed out of the body

2 : someone who is very unpleasant and not liked • He's an obnoxious little *turd*.

tu-reen /tə'ri:n, Brit tju'ri:n/ *noun*, *pl* -reens [*count*] : a deep bowl with a cover that is used for serving food (such as soup)

¹**turf** /'tɜf/ *noun*, *pl* *turfs* also Brit *turves* /'tɜvz/

1 *a* [*noncount*] : the upper layer of ground that is made up of grass and plant roots • a piece of *turf* *b* Brit : a square piece of turf cut out of the ground that is used for making lawns [*count*] a lawn made by laying *turfs* [*noncount*] a lawn made by laying *turf* [= (US) sod]

2 : a material that looks like grass and that is used especially to cover athletic fields [*noncount*] Synthetic *turf* was installed in the playing field instead of grass. [*count*] playing fields with artificial *turfs*

3 : an area or a place that you control or that feels like your home [*count*] gangs defending/protecting their *turfs* • The team beat us on our own *turf*. [=we were defeated at home] [*noncount*] gangs defending/protecting their *turf* • The team played on *home turf*. • *turf wars* between gangs — often used figuratively • In chapter two, the author is on unfamiliar *turf*. [=is dealing with an unfamiliar subject]

4 *the turf* : the sport or business of horse racing — often

used as *turf* before another noun • *turf* writers/races

— see also SURF AND TURF

²turf verb turfs; turfed; turf-ing

turf out also turf off [phrasal verb] *turf* (someone) out/off or *turf out/off* (someone) *Brit, informal* : to force (someone) to leave a place or position • She *turfed* him out of the house. • He got *turfed off* the bus.

turf accountant *noun, pl ~ -tants* [count] *Brit* : BOOK-MAKER

tur-gid /'tɜːdʒəd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *formal*

1 *disapproving* : very complicated and difficult to understand • *turgid* prose/language

2 : larger or fuller than normal because of swelling • *turgid* [=swollen] limbs

Turk /'tɜːk/ *noun, pl Turks* [count] : a person born, raised, or living in Turkey

tur-key /'tɜːki/ *noun, pl -keys*

1 **a** [count] *pl also turkey* : a large American bird that is related to the chicken and that is hunted or raised by people for its meat — see color picture on page C9 **b** [noncount] : the meat of the turkey used as food • roasted/smoked *turkey* — often used before another noun • *turkey* sandwiches/burgers • We had a traditional *turkey* dinner on Thanksgiving.

2 [count] *US, informal* **a** : something (such as a play or movie) that has failed • The new play was a *turkey*. [=flop] **b** : a stupid or foolish person • He was acting like a complete *turkey*.

talk turkey *chiefly US, informal* : to speak with someone in a plain, clear, or honest way • It's time to *talk turkey* about the problems in our relationship.

— see also COLD TURKEY

turkey vulture *noun, pl ~ -tures* [count] : a large American bird that eats dead animals — called also *turkey buzzard*

¹**Turk-ish** /'tɜːkɪʃ/ *noun* [noncount] : the language of the Turks

²**Turkish** *adj* : of or relating to Turkey, Turks, or Turkish • *Turkish* culture/politics • He is from Ankara, the *Turkish* capital.

Turkish bath *noun, pl ~ baths* [count] : a bath in which a person passes through a series of rooms that are increasingly hot and then has a massage and takes a cold shower

Turkish coffee *noun, pl ~ -fees* [count, noncount] : a strong black coffee that is sweetened and served in small cups

Turkish delight *noun* [noncount] : a type of candy made of thick jelly that is cut into pieces and covered with sugar

tur-moil /'tɜːmoʊl/ *noun* : a state of confusion or disorder [noncount] The country has been in *turmoil* for the past 10 years. • a period of political/economic *turmoil* • emotional *turmoil* [singular] His life has been in a constant *turmoil*.

¹turn /'tɜːn/ verb turns; turned; turn-ing

1 : to move around a central point [no obj] The Earth *turns* [=rotates, revolves] on its axis. — often + *around* • We spun the top and watched it *turn around* in circles. [+ obj] He *turned* the key and opened the door. • She slowly *turned* the doorknob. • *Turn* the steering wheel all the way to the left. • Someone *turned* the switch and the lights came on.

2 **a** : to cause your body or a part of your body to face a different direction [no obj] They *turned* and walked away. • She *turned* to leave—but stopped. • She *turned* (around) to look at me. • They *turned* (away) from the gruesome sight. • He *turned* aside/sideways to let me pass. • The patient *turned* onto his side. • The photographer asked her to *turn* slightly to her/the left. [+ obj] He *turned* himself around to see the back of his shirt in the mirror. • She *turned* her face away from the camera. **b** : to cause (something or a side of something) to face an opposite or different direction [+ obj] *Turn* the picture (around) so that I can see it. • I think you should *turn* [=flip] the pancakes now. • *Turn* the page (over). • The tag says to *turn* the shirt inside out before washing it. • He *turned* up/down the collar of his jacket. • Before planting the seeds, she *turned* the soil. [=brought lower levels of soil to the surface by digging] [no obj] The plant's leaves had *turned* toward the window.

3 **a** : to move in a particular direction and especially toward the left or right [no obj] A car *turned* into the driveway. • He ran down the street and *turned* toward the park. • *Turn* left at the next intersection. • *Turn* right onto Main Street. • *Turn* here. [+ obj] He *turned* the light in the direction of the noise. • She *turned* the car into the driveway. • The bicyclists *turned* the corner [=they rode around the corner] at full speed. **b**

[no obj] : to begin to go in a different direction • The road *turns* sharply to the right up ahead. • The river *turns* east for a few miles and then continues south. **c** [no obj] of a tide : to begin to move in the opposite direction • We're waiting for the tide to *turn*.

4 : to change into a different state or form [no obj] The leaves *turn* [=they change color] in the fall. • The milk has *turned*. [=it has become sour] • His luck *turned*, and he lost all his winnings. — often + *into* or *to* • The argument quickly *turned into* a fistfight. • The sofa can *turn into* a bed. • He has seen his little girl *turn into* a bright, beautiful woman. • Water *turns to* ice at 32 degrees Fahrenheit. • Her cereal had *turned to* mush. [+ obj] — often + *into* or *to* • The witch *turned* the prince *into* a frog. • The studio plans to *turn* the book *into* a movie. • There are plans to *turn* the old school *into* an apartment building. • The cold weather *turned* the water *to* ice. • Her stare, it was said, could *turn* men *to* stone.

5 **a** [linking verb] : to change to a different state, condition, etc. : BECOME • The milk has *turned* sour. • The weather *turned* cold overnight. • His hair was beginning to *turn* gray. • She *turned* red with embarrassment. • It was beginning to *turn* dark outside. • an actress *turned* director [=an actress who became a director] • Two of his teammates have decided to *turn pro*. [=to become professional athletes] • She was a spy who *turned traitor* [=became a traitor] and gave secret information to the enemy. **b** [+ obj] : to cause (someone or something) to change in a specified way • A drought would *turn* things from bad to worse for the farmers. • The events of his life had *turned* [=made] him bitter. • The sun *turned* her skin (a) golden brown. **c** [linking verb] : to reach a particular age • She *turned* two years old last week. • He moved away from home when he *turned* 20.

6 [+ obj] : to change the volume, temperature, channel, etc., of (something) by pressing a button, moving a switch, etc. • *Turn* the TV to channel 4. • He *turned* the oven to 400 degrees. • The lights in the room had been *turned* low. — see also TURN DOWN (below), TURN UP (below)

7 [+ obj] : to direct (your thoughts, attention, etc.) toward or away from something : to start or stop thinking about or paying attention to someone or something • He *turned* his thoughts to home. [=he began to think of home] • She *turned* her attention to the child. • I could not *turn* my mind away from the idea. • Their efforts were *turned* to defending the country's borders.

8 [+ obj] : to earn (a profit) • He *turned* a quick profit. • (*chiefly Brit*) people looking to *turn* a penny or two [=to earn a profit]

9 [+ obj] : to perform (a particular action) • The team *turned* a double play to end the inning. • She learned how to *turn* a cartwheel. • They were living on the streets and *turning tricks* [=taking money for sex] to survive.

10 [+ obj] : to form (a sentence, phrase, etc.) in a particular way • perfectly *turned* phrases • He knows how to *turn* a sentence.

11 [+ obj] : to injure (your ankle) by moving it in an unnatural way • She *turned* [=twisted] her ankle during the game.

12 [+ obj] : to create or shape (something) from a piece of wood or metal by using a special machine (called a lathe) • *turn* a set of table legs

In addition to the phrases shown below, *turn* occurs in many idioms that are shown at appropriate entries throughout the dictionary. For example, *turn a blind eye* can be found at ¹BLIND and *turn the tables* can be found at ¹TABLE.

turn against [phrasal verb] 1 **a** *turn against* (someone or something) : to stop supporting or being friendly to (someone or something) • The senator eventually *turned against* the war. • She *turned against* her best friend. **b** *turn* (someone) *against* (someone) : to cause (someone) to stop being friendly toward (someone) • He tried to *turn* our friends *against* us. 2 *turn* (something) *against* (someone) : to use (something) in a way that harms (someone) • She started *turning* my argument *against* me. • He tried to *turn* her many years of experience in Washington *against* her. [=tried to persuade people that her experience was not a good thing]

turn around or chiefly Brit turn round [phrasal verb] 1 *turn around or turn around* (something) or *turn* (something) *around* : to cause a vehicle to travel in the opposite direction • We *turned around* in someone's driveway. • She *turned* the car *around* and drove back home. 2 **a** : to change and become better or more successful • Recently,

the company has *turned around*, and it should have a profitable year. • The economy should *turn around* soon. **b** *turn around (something) or turn (something) around* : to change (something) in a way that makes it better or more successful • The new CEO has really *turned* the company *around* in the past year. • You need to *turn* your life *around* before it's too late. **3** *turn around and (do something) informal* : to act in an unexpected or surprising way by doing (something specified) • He just *turned around and* left school. [=he just suddenly left school] • You can't *turn around and* say that you don't want to go. I already bought the tickets! — see also TURNAROUND

turn away [phrasal verb] *turn away (someone) or turn (someone) away* : to refuse to allow (someone) to enter a place • All the seats were sold and a large crowd had to be *turned away*. • The homeless shelter will not *turn away* people in need. • We *turn away* hundreds of applicants each year.

turn back [phrasal verb] **1 a** : to move in the opposite direction in order to return to a place • The sun is setting. It's time to *turn back*. • It's too late to *turn back*. We have to keep going. **b** : to return to an earlier place or time • *Turn back* to the first page. • Once you start the process, *there's no turning back* [=you must continue the process] **2** *turn back (someone or something) or turn (someone or something) back* **a** : to force (someone or something) to move in an opposite direction • They fought to *turn back* the enemy. • If I could *turn back (the hands of) time* [=return to a condition that existed in the past], I would. **b** : to force (someone or something) to return to a place • The refugees were *turned back* at the border.

turn down [phrasal verb] **1** *turn down (something) or turn (something) down* : to lower the volume, temperature, etc., of something by pressing a button, moving a switch, etc. • Please *turn down* the heat. • The lights in the restaurant were *turned down* low. • He *turned* the volume *down* on the TV. = He *turned down* the TV. • *Turn* the oven *down* to 325 degrees. — see also ¹TURN 6 (above) **2** *turn down (something) or turn (something) down* : to fold (something) down or back • She *turned down* the bedsheets. • He *turned down* the corner of the page. **3** *turn down (someone or something) or turn (someone or something) down* : to say no to (someone or something) especially in a polite way • She *turned* the offer *down*. • They *turned down* our invitation. • I asked her out, but she *turned me down*.

turn in [phrasal verb] **1** : to enter a place by turning from a road or path • Here's the house. You can *turn in* up there. **2** : to go to bed • It's time to *turn in*. **3** *turn (something) in or turn in (something)* **a** chiefly US : to give (something) to a person who will review or accept it • He *turned in* [=handed in] his application/resignation yesterday. • Students should *turn* their papers *in* on Thursday. **b** : to return (something that you have borrowed, found, etc.) • Please *turn in* [=return] the art supplies when you are finished with them. • She found a set of keys and *turned* them *in* to the secretary at the front desk. • Has anyone *turned in* a wallet recently? • The suspended officer was asked to *turn in* his badge and gun. **c** : to perform or produce (something) • She *turned in* [=gave] a fine performance. • The company has *turned in* a healthy profit for the third year running. **4** *turn (someone) in* **a** : to give control of (someone) to the police or some other authority • His own parents brought him to the police station and *turned* him *in*. • The escaped prisoner *turned himself in* (to the police). [=he went to the police and allowed himself to be arrested] **b** : to give information about the location of (someone who has committed a crime) to the police or some other authority • His girlfriend threatened to *turn* him *in*.

turn loose see let loose at ¹LOOSE

turn off [phrasal verb] **1** : to go in a direction that moves you away from a straight course or main road • They *turned off* onto the wrong road. • *Turn off* at the next exit. **2** *turn off (something) or turn (something) off* : to stop the operation or flow of (something) by pressing a button, moving a switch, etc. • She *turned off* the alarm/heat/lights/water. • Should I leave the TV on or *turn it off*? **3** *turn (someone) off or turn off (someone) informal* : to cause a strong feeling of dislike in (someone) : to be unappealing to (someone) • People who smoke *turn me off*. — see also TURNOFF

turn on [phrasal verb] **1** *turn on (something) or turn (something) on* : to cause (something) to work or flow by pressing a button, moving a switch, etc. • She *turned on* the lights/computer/radio/water. • We *turned on* the heat in

the house. — often used figuratively • He really knows how to *turn on* the charm. [=knows how to be charming] • She *turned* the tears *on* [=she started crying] to get their sympathy. **2** *turn (someone) on or turn on (someone) informal* : to cause (someone) to feel excitement or enjoyment : to be appealing to (someone) • What kind of music *turns* you *on*? — see also TURN-ON **3** *turn (someone) on to (something)* : to cause (someone) to use or become interested in (something) for the first time • She *turned* him *on* to water-skiing. • He was *turned on* to cocaine by an acquaintance. **4** *turn on (someone or something)* : to attack or criticize (someone or something) in a sudden or unexpected way • The dog suddenly *turned on* its owner. • The rock star's fans began to *turn on* him. **5** *turn on/upon (something)* **a** : to be determined or decided by (something) • The outcome of the election *turns on* [=depends on] how well the candidates perform in the next debate. **b** : to have (something) as a main subject or interest • The discussion *turned on* the question of how the money should be spent. **6** *turn (something) on (someone or something)* : to use (something, such as a weapon) to harm, stop, or kill (someone or something) • Fire hoses were *turned on* the protesters. • He killed three people before *turning* the gun *on* himself. [=before shooting himself]

turn out [phrasal verb] **1** : to leave your home in order to participate in or do something • Few people *turned out* for the election. • Few people *turned out* to vote. — see also TURNOUT **1** **2 a** : to happen, end, or develop in a particular way • Despite some initial difficulties, everything *turned out* well. • Things don't always *turn out* the way you want them to. • As it/things *turned out*, I didn't need an umbrella after all. **b** *turn out to be (something)* — used to say that something or someone eventually becomes something or is found to have a particular identity, quality, ability, etc. • The play *turned out to be* a success. • The animal in the bushes *turned out to be* a cat. • I hope I *turn out to be* right. **c** *turn out like (someone or something)* : to become like (someone or something) • He didn't want to *turn out like* his father. • Nobody thought it would ever *turn out like* this. **3** *turn out (something) or turn (something) out* **a** : to cause (something) to face or point outward • She *turned* her feet *out* and bent down. • He stood with his feet *turned out*. **b** : to cause (a lamp, flashlight, etc.) to no longer produce light by pushing a button, moving a switch, etc. • Who *turned out* the lights? **c** : to produce (something) • The factory *turns out* parts for car engines. • They *turn out* a new CD almost every year. **d** : to cause (something, such as a pocket) to become inside out • He *turned out* his pockets to show that they were empty. **e** : to empty the contents of (something) especially for cleaning or organizing • She *turned out* the drawer. • He *turned out* the closet in search of his baseball glove. **4** *turn (someone) out or turn out (someone)* **a** : to force (someone) to leave a place or position • The landlord *turned* them *out* from/of the apartment for not paying the rent. • Voters are unhappy with the governor and want to *turn* her *out*. **b** : to dress (yourself or someone else) in a careful or fancy way — usually (be) *turned out* • a handsomely *turned out* gentleman • She was *turned out* in a beautiful blue gown.

turn over [phrasal verb] **1 a** : to move and face the opposite direction • She *turned over* (in bed) to see what time it was. • The kayak *turned over* in the rapids. — sometimes used figuratively • (Brit) The boat ride *turned over* my stomach. **b** *turn over (someone or something) or turn (someone or something) over* : to cause (someone or something) to face the opposite direction • If you *turn* the paper *over*, you will find more math problems. • He *turned over* the baby onto her back. **2 of an engine** : to start to work • The engine would not *turn over*. **3** *turn over (something) or turn (something) over* **a** : to earn (a particular amount of money) • The store has been *turning over* \$1,000 a week. **b** US, sports : to allow the other team to get possession of (a ball) • The quarterback has *turned* the ball *over* three times. — see also TURNOVER **4** *turn (someone or something) over to (someone) or turn over (someone or something) to (someone)* : to give the control or responsibility of (someone or something) to (someone) • I am *turning* the job *over* to you. [=I am giving you the job] • He *turned* the property *over* to his niece. • The case has been *turned over* to the district attorney. • The suspect was *turned over* to the police on Wednesday. **5** *turn (something) over to (something) or turn over (something) to (something)* : to change the use of (something, such as

land or a building) • She plans to *turn over* the land to growing wheat and barley. **6** *turn over (something) in your mind or turn (something) over in your mind* : to think about (something) in order to understand it or make a decision • She kept *turning over* the problem in her mind, trying to find a solution. **7** *chiefly Brit* : to change the channel on a television set • *Turn over* to channel 7. **8** *turn over (a place) or turn (a place) over* *Brit slang* : to make a mess of (a place) while robbing it • The shop has been *turned over* three times in the last year.

turn to [*phrasal verb*] **1** *turn to (someone or something)* : to go to (someone or something) for support, information, etc. • I was all alone and had no one to *turn to*. • She became depressed and *turned to* drugs. [=began using drugs] — often + *for* • She *turned to* a friend for help. • He *turned to* the employment agency for support. • *Turn to* [=refer to] the handout for the exact figures. **2** *turn to (something) a* : to become involved in or with (something) • He *turned to* a life of crime. • She sang rock music before *turning to* the blues. **b** : to begin to deal with (something different) as a topic • The conversation eventually *turned to* politics. • We should *turn to* the next item on the list. **c** : to turn the pages of a book, magazine, etc., until you have reached the desired or specified page • She *turned* ahead to the third chapter. • Please *turn (over) to* page 22 of your textbook.

turn up [*phrasal verb*] **1** **a** : to be found usually unexpectedly • I'm sure your ring will *turn up* somewhere. • New evidence has *turned up*. **b** : to be found to be in a specified condition • The missing person eventually *turned up* dead. • He *turned up missing* at roll call. [=he was not present at roll call] **c** *turn up (something) or turn (something) up* : to find or discover (something) • I'll let you know if I *turn up* anything interesting. **2** : to happen unexpectedly • Something is always *turning up* to prevent us from getting together. **3** **a** : to arrive at a place • And who should *turn up* at the ceremony but John! • Things were looking bad, but he was sure someone would *turn up* to save him. **b** : to appear in a place • Her name is always *turning up* in the newspapers. **4** *turn up (something) or turn (something) up a* : to increase the volume, temperature, etc., of something by pressing a button, moving a switch, etc. • I *turned up* the heat. • Please *turn* the volume *up* on the TV. = Please *turn* the TV *up*. • The oven was *turned up* to 400 degrees. **b** : to make (a skirt, a pair of pants, etc.) shorter • These pants need to be *turned up* a little. — opposite *let down* at ¹LET

²turn noun, pl turns [count]

1 : an opportunity or responsibility to do or use something before or after other people • You have to wait your *turn* in line. • Is it my *turn* yet? • Can I please have/take a *turn* on your bike? [=can I have a chance to use your bike?] — often followed by *to* + *verb* • Whose *turn* is it to do the dishes? • It's her *turn to bat*. • You've made me suffer in the past, so now it's your *turn to suffer*!

2 : an act of turning something around a central point • Give the wheel another *turn*. • He tightened the screw with one last *turn*. • With a *turn* of the switch, the lights came back on.

3 : an act of changing the direction that someone or something is facing or moving in • Take a left-hand *turn* at the next intersection. • I made a right *turn* [=I turned right] onto Main Street. • a quick *turn* of her head — see also THREE-POINT TURN, U-TURN

4 : a change in the state or condition of something — usually used with *take* • The stock market *took* a sharp downward *turn* today. • The conversation suddenly *took* an unexpected *turn* when he announced that he was getting married. • Business *took a turn for the worse/better*. [=it became worse/better] • There has been a dramatic *turn of events*. [=something important and surprising has happened] • It's hard to follow all the *twists and turns* [=the surprising changes] of the plot. **5** **a** *US* : a place where a road connects to another road that goes in a different direction • I think we took a wrong *turn*. [= (Brit) turning] **b** : a place where a road, path, etc., changes direction • There is a dangerous *turn* up ahead. • The runners are coming down the straightaway and heading into the *turn*. • The road through the mountains has many *twists and turns*. [=curves and frequent changes of direction]

6 : an act that affects someone in a particular way • He did me a nasty *turn*. • You have done me a few good *turns*, so now let me help you. • *One good turn deserves another*. [=if someone does something nice for you, you should do something nice for that person]

7 : a public appearance or performance • The actor makes

frequent guest *turns* on the show. — see also STAR TURN

8 *old-fashioned* : a short walk or ride — usually singular • They *took a turn* [=went for a stroll] through the park.

9 *old-fashioned* : a sudden feeling of being frightened — usually singular • He startled me and *gave me quite a turn*.

10 *Brit, old-fashioned* : a sudden, short period of feeling slightly ill, faint, or dizzy — usually singular • He *had a turn* and had to lie down.

at every turn : in a constant or continuous way : each time a person tries to do something • They opposed her *at every turn*.

by turns — used to describe different things that happen one after another • The book was praised and criticized *by turns*. • The stories in the collection are, *by turns*, curious, tragic, disturbing, and heartening.

done to a turn *Brit* : cooked, performed, etc., in a perfect way : done to perfection • The chicken was *done to a turn*.

in turn **1** : following one after another in a particular order • Each witness *in turn* gave his or her version of what happened. • The algae feeds the fish, which *in turn* become food for larger sea animals. **2** : as a result • I supported him and expected that he, *in turn*, would support me.

on the turn *Brit* : about to start changing • The political situation in the country is *on the turn*.

out of turn **1** : not at the time you are expected to do something according to a set order • She rolled the dice *out of turn*. [=when it was not her turn] **2** : at a wrong or improper time or place • Excuse me for speaking *out of turn* [=for speaking when it is not proper for me to speak], but I don't believe you are treating him fairly.

take turns also *Brit take it in turns* ♦ If people *take turns* doing or using something or *take it in turns* to do or use something, they do or use it one after another in order to share the responsibility or opportunity of doing or using it. • We *take turns* washing the dishes. • The kids *took turns* on the swing.

the turn of the century : the beginning of a new century • We were discussing how Americans lived at *the turn of the 19th/last century*.

turn of mind : a way of thinking • He has a philosophical/inquiring *turn of mind*. • Her *turns of mind* are revealed in her journals.

turn of phrase : a way of saying or describing something • a nice *turn of phrase*

turn of speed *Brit* : an increase in speed or progress • The horse gave an impressive *turn of speed*.

turn-about /'tʌnə,baut/ noun, pl -abouts [count] : TURN-AROUND **2** — usually singular; often + *in* • There was a sharp *turnabout* in oil prices. • a *turnabout* in the country's foreign policy

turnabout is fair play *US* — used to say that if someone does something to harm you it is fair for you to do something to harm that person • She did it to me, so I'm going to do it to her. *Turnabout is fair play*.

turn-around /'tʌnə,raund/ also *Brit turn-round* /'tʌn-,raund/ noun, pl -arounds [count]

1 **a** : the time it takes someone to receive, deal with, and return something • The *turnaround* for most orders is/takes 24 hours. • There is a 24-hour *turnaround* time on most orders. **b** : the process of making something (such as an airplane) ready for use again after it has arrived at a place • a quick *turnaround* between flights

2 : a complete change from a bad situation to a good situation, from one way of thinking to an opposite way of thinking, etc. • The team needs a big *turnaround* after their loss last week. • The company has achieved a remarkable *turn-around* in the past year. • The latest news has caused a *turn-around* in public opinion. — see also *turn around* at ¹TURN

turn-coat /'tʌn,kout/ noun, pl -coats [count] *disapproving* : a person who stops being a member of a group in order to join another group that opposes it : TRAITOR • a political *turncoat*

turn-ing /'tʌnɪŋ/ noun, pl -ings [count] *Brit* : ²TURN **5a**
turning point noun, pl ~ points [count] : a time when an important change happens • Winning that game was the *turning point* of the team's season. • That job was a major *turning point* in her career.

tur-nip /'tʌnəp/ noun, pl -nips [count, noncount] : a round, light-colored root of a plant that is eaten as a vegetable; also : the plant that produces such a root — see color picture on page C4

turn-key /'tɒn,ki:/ *adj.* always used before a noun : complete and ready to be used • a *turnkey* computer system

turn-off /'tɒn,ɔ:f/ *noun, pl -offs* [count]

1 : a road that allows vehicles to leave a highway

2 *informal* : something that you dislike or that causes you to stop being interested in or attracted to someone or something • His strong cologne was a real *turnoff*. • What are your *turnoffs*? — see also *turn off* at ¹TURN

turn-on /'tɒn,ɔ:n/ *noun, pl -ons* [count] : something that you like or that causes you to be interested and excited • Classical music is one of his biggest *turn-ons*. • sexual *turn-ons* — see also *turn on* at ¹TURN

turn-out /'tɒn,aut/ *noun, pl -outs* [count]

1 : the number of people who go to or participate in something • There was a good/large *turnout* at the town meeting. [=a large number of people attended the town meeting] • The opening game of the season brought only a small *turnout*. • a 50 percent voter *turnout* • heavy voter *turnouts* — see also *turn out* 1 at ¹TURN

2 *US* : an area next to a road where vehicles can stop — called also (*Brit*) *lay-by*

turn-over /'tɒn,ouvə/ *noun, pl -overs*

1 : the amount of money that is received in sales by a store or company [count] — usually singular • an annual *turnover* of one million dollars [noncount] The company had an increase in *turnover* this quarter.

2 : the rate at which people leave a place, company, etc., and are replaced by others [noncount] The company has experienced a lot of *turnover* (of personnel) in the past year. [=a lot of people have left the company and been replaced by new employees] • The company has a high *turnover* rate. [count] — usually singular • The store has a high employee *turnover*.

3 : the rate at which the goods in a store are sold and replaced by other goods [count] — usually singular • a rapid *turnover* of inventory [noncount] We want to find ways to speed up inventory *turnover*.

4 [count] *US, sports* : an occurrence in which the team that has the ball loses it to the other team because of an error or a minor violation of the rules • The team committed/had two *turnovers* in the first quarter. • He forced a *turnover*. [=he caused the other team to lose possession of the ball]

5 [count] : a type of small pie that has one half of the crust folded over the other half and that is filled with fruit, meat, or a vegetable • an apple/chicken/potato *turnover*

— see also *turn over* at ¹TURN

turn-pike /'tɒn,paɪk/ *noun, pl -pikes* [count] *US* : a major road that you must pay to use • the Massachusetts *Turnpike*

turn-round /'tɒn,raʊnd/ *noun, pl -rounds* [count] *Brit* : TURNAROUND 1

turn signal *noun, pl ~ -nals* [count] *US* : one of the lights on a vehicle that flash to indicate that the vehicle is turning left or right — called also (*US*) *blinker*, (*Brit*) *indicator*; see picture at CAR

turn-stile /'tɒn,stajəl/ *noun, pl*

-stiles [count] : a gate at an entrance that has arms which turn around and that allows only one person at a time to pass through

turn-table /'tɒn,teɪbəl/ *noun, pl*

-ta-bles [count]

1 : the part of a record player that turns the record

2 : a platform that is used to turn vehicles (such as railroad cars) around

turn-up /'tɒn,ʌp/ *noun, pl -ups*

Brit

1 [count] : ¹CUFF 2

2 [singular] *informal* : an unexpected or surprising event • It was a real *turn-up* for the books when he won the election!

tur-pen-tine /'tɜ:pən,tain/ *noun* [noncount] : a type of oil with a strong smell that is used to make paint thinner and to clean paint brushes

tur-pi-tude /'tɜ:pə,tu:d, *Brit* 'tɜ:pə,tju:d/ *noun* [noncount]

formal : a very evil quality or way of behaving • moral *turpitude*

turps /'tɜ:ps/ *noun* [noncount] *Brit, informal* : TURPENTINE

tur-quoise /'tɜ:kɔɪz, 'tɜ:kwoɪz/ *noun* [noncount]

1 : a bluish-green stone used in jewelry — see color picture on page C11

2 : a bluish-green color — see color picture on page C2

— *turquoise* *adj* • a *turquoise* dress/bracelet

tur-ret /'tɜ:rət/ *noun, pl -rets* [count]

1 : a small tower on a building • a castle with *turrets*

2 : the part on a military tank, airplane, or ship from which guns are fired

— *tur-ret-ed* /'tɜ:rətəd/ *adj*

• a *turreted* castle

tur-tle /'tɜ:tl/ *noun, pl tur-*

tles [count] : a reptile that lives mostly in water and that has a hard shell which covers its body — see also SEA TURTLE, SNAPPING TURTLE

turn turtle chiefly *Brit*, of a

boat : to turn upside down • Their boat *turned turtle* during the storm.

tur-tle-dove /'tɜ:tl,dʌv/ *noun, pl -doves* [count] : a type of bird that makes a soft pleasant sound ♦ *Turtledoves* are sometimes used as symbols of love and lovers.

tur-tle-neck /'tɜ:tl,nek/ *noun, pl -necks* [count]

1 *US* : a high collar that covers most of your neck even when the collar is folded over itself; *also* : a knit shirt or sweater with this kind of collar • She wore a *turtleneck* under her jacket. — called also (*Brit*) *polo neck*; see color picture on page C15

2 *Brit* : MOCK TURTLENECK

turves *Brit plural of* ¹TURF

tush /'tuʃ/ *noun, pl tush-es* [count] *US, informal + humorous* : the part of the body that you sit on : BUTTOCKS • He fell on his *tush*.

tusk /'tʌsk/ *noun, pl tusks* [count] : a very long, large tooth that sticks out of the mouth of an animal (such as an elephant, walrus, or boar)

— *tusked* /'tʌskt/ *adj* • a *tusked* boar

¹**tus-sle** /'tʌsəl/ *verb tus-sles; tus-sled; tus-sling* [no obj]

1 : to fight or struggle with (someone) by grabbing or pushing • The two basketball players *tussled* for the ball. • Some guy *tussled* [=scuffled] with a security guard for a few minutes before he was arrested.

2 : to argue or compete with (someone) • The residents of the neighborhood *tussled* with city hall for years about the broken parking meters.

²**tussle** *noun, pl tussles* [count]

1 : a short fight or struggle • The suspect was arrested after a *tussle* with a security guard.

2 : an argument or a dispute • a *tussle* for control of the company • The President is in for another *tussle* with Congress.

tus-sock /'tʌsək/ *noun, pl -socks* [count] : a small area that is covered with long thick grass • There were grassy *tussocks* throughout the marsh.

¹**tut** /a clicking sound, often read as 'tʌt/ *interj* : ¹TUT-TUT

²**tut** /'tʌt/ *noun, pl tuts* [count] : ²TUT-TUT

³**tut** /'tʌt/ *verb tuts; tut-ted; tut-ting* [no obj] : ³TUT-TUT

tu-te-lage /'tu:təlɪdʒ, *Brit* 'tju:təlɪdʒ/ *noun* [noncount] *formal*

1 : the teaching of an individual student by a teacher • He studied music *under the tutelage* of his father. = He studied music *under his father's tutelage*. [=he was taught music by his father]

2 : an act of guarding or protecting something • an African nation formerly under British *tutelage* [=guardianship]

3 : helpful influence or guidance • The company is relying on the *tutelage* of its new CEO to increase profits.

¹**tu-tor** /'tu:tə, *Brit* 'tju:tə/ *noun, pl -tors* [count]

1 : a teacher who works with one student • I got a *tutor* to help me with my homework. • a private *tutor*

2 *Brit* : a teacher at a British university who works with one student or a small group of students • He is a *tutor* in European history.

²**tutor** *verb -tors; -tored; -tor-ing* : to teach a single student

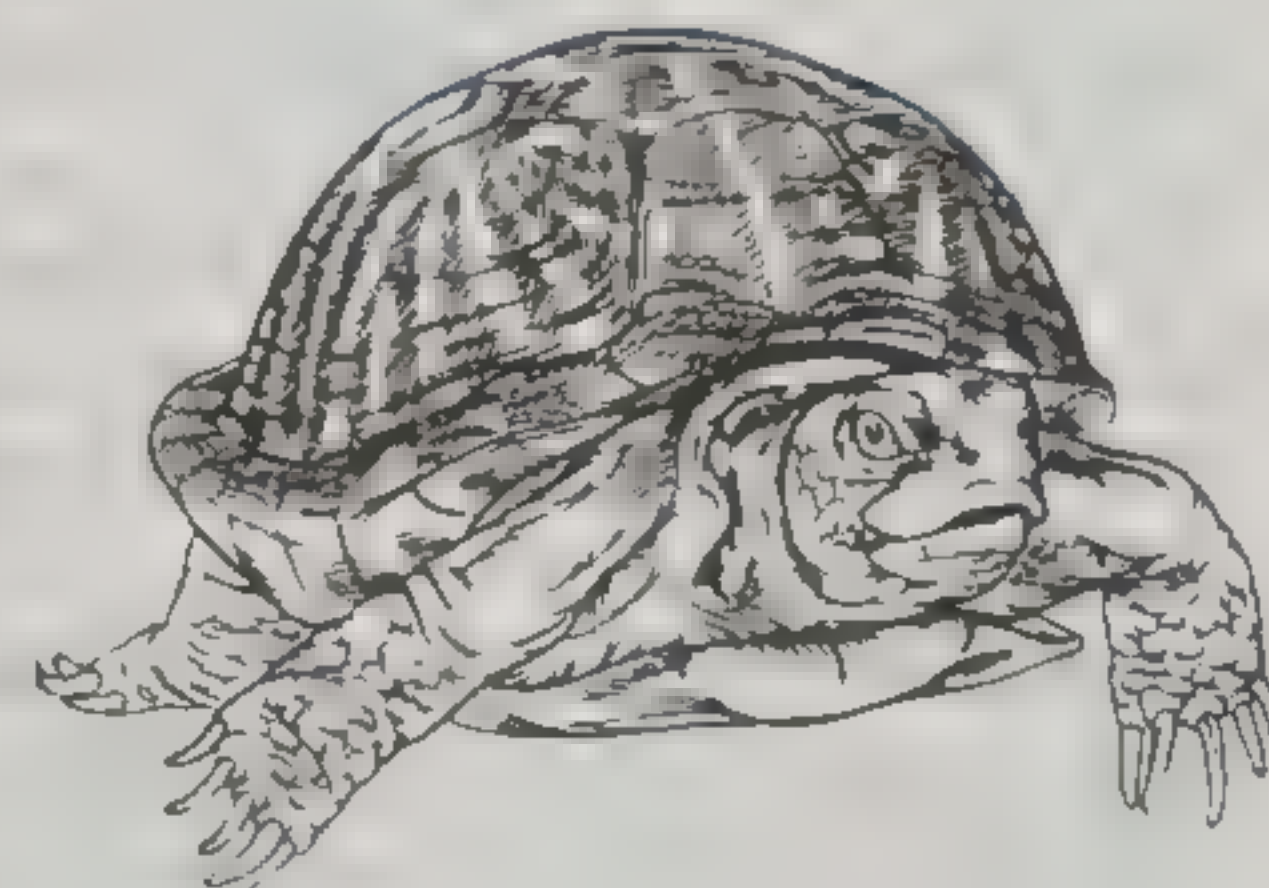
: to teach someone as a tutor [no obj] She earned extra money *tutoring* in the evening. [+ obj] She spent her evenings *tutoring* her son in math. [=helping her son study math]

• Some teachers stay after school to *tutor* [=coach] struggling students.

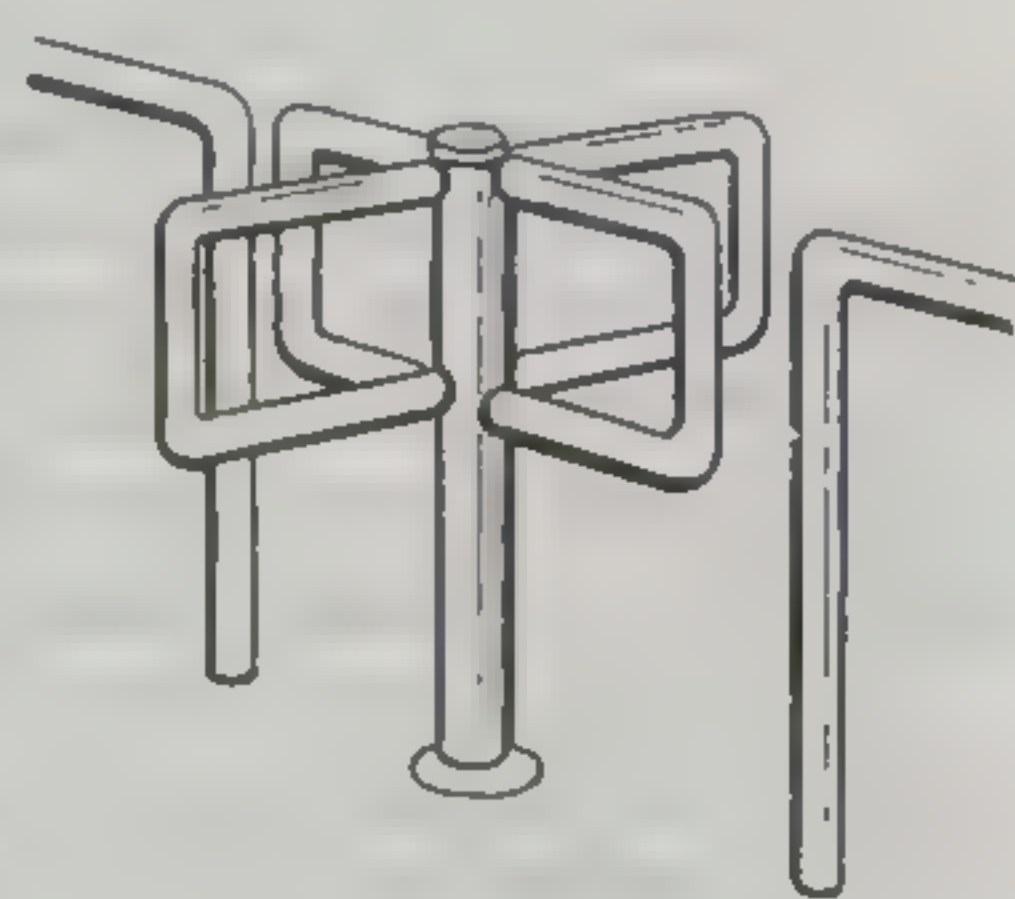
¹**tu-to-ri-al** /tu'tɔɪriəl, *Brit* tju'tɔ:riəl/ *noun, pl -als* [count]

1 : a book, computer program, etc., that teaches someone how to do something by explaining each stage of a process • a helpful programming *tutorial* • An online *tutorial* gives basic instructions for those who have never made reservations on the Web.

2 : a class taught by a tutor for one student or for a small



turtle



turnstile



group of students • The professor was offering a *tutorial* in her office a week before the exam.

²**tutorial** *adj* : of or relating to a tutor • We offer *tutorial* instruction for test preparation.

tut-ti-frut-ti /ˌtuːtiˈfruːti/ *noun* [noncount] : a kind of ice cream that contains small pieces of nuts and fruit

¹**tut-tut** /two clicking sounds, often read as ˈtʌtˈtʌt/ *interj* — used to show disapproval • *Tut-tut* [=tsk-tsk], this time you've gone too far.

²**tut-tut** /ˈtʌtˈtʌt/ *noun*, *pl* -tuts [count] : a sound made to show disapproval • There were a few inevitable *tut-tuts* from the older folks in the crowd.

³**tut-tut** /ˈtʌtˈtʌt/ *verb* -tuts; -tut-ted; -tut-ting [no obj] : to show disapproval by making a sound (such as “tut-tut”) • Some people may *tut-tut* disapprovingly about obscenities on television. : to say something that expresses disapproval • Political commentators have been *tut-tutting* over the latest scandal in Washington.

tu-tu /ˈtuːtuː/ *noun*, *pl* -tus [count] : a short skirt that is made of many layers of material and that is worn by a ballerina

tux /ˈtʌks/ *noun*, *pl* tux-es [count] chiefly US, informal : TUXEDO

tux-e-do /ˌtʌkˈsiːdoʊ/ *noun*, *pl* -dos or -does [count] chiefly US : a formal suit for a man; especially : a formal black suit worn with a white shirt and a black bow tie — called also (Brit) *dinner suit*; see color picture on page C16; compare DINNER JACKET

TV /ˈtiːviː/ *noun*, *pl* TVs : TELEVISION [count] unplug the *TV* • We need a new *TV*. [noncount] Do you want to watch some *TV* before bed? • She works in *TV*. — often used before another noun • a *TV* host/set/show

on TV : broadcast by television : being shown by television • There's nothing (good) *on TV* [=on television] tonight.

TV dinner *noun*, *pl* ~ -ners [count] : a cooked meal that is frozen and packaged and that needs only to be heated before it is eaten

twad-dle /ˈtwɑːdl/ *noun* [noncount] informal + old-fashioned : foolish words or ideas : NONSENSE • We don't believe that *twaddle* anymore.

twain /ˈtweɪn/ *noun* [noncount] old-fashioned : TWO *never the twain shall meet* — used to say that two things, places, etc., are very different and can never be brought together or made similar • As far as he's concerned, work is work, family life is family life, and *never the twain shall meet*.

¹**twang** /ˈtwæŋ/ *noun*, *pl* twangs [count]

1 : the typical sound of the speech of people from a certain place; especially : a sound that seems to be produced through the nose as well as the mouth • an Australian *twang* • I noticed a slight Southern *twang* in her voice. • He always has a nasal *twang* when he sings.

2 : a harsh, quick sound made by pulling something (such as a wire) tight and then letting it go • The clothesline snapped with a *twang*. • We heard the *twang* of an electric guitar coming from the basement.

²**twang** *verb* twangs; twanged; twang-ing : to make a harsh, quick sound [no obj] The rope *twanged* when it snapped. [+ obj] He was *twanging* the strings of the guitar.

¹**'twas** /ˈtwʌz/ old-fashioned + literary — used as a contraction of “it was” • *'Twas* a day like no other.

twat /ˈtwɑːt/ *noun*, *pl* twats [count] offensive

1 Brit : a stupid or annoying person

2 : a woman's sexual organs • *Twat* is an extremely offensive word in all of its uses and should be avoided.

¹**tweak** /ˈtwiːk/ *verb* tweaks; tweaked; tweak-ing [+ obj]

1 : to change (something) slightly in order to improve it : to make small adjustments to (something) • The company may have to *tweak* [=adjust] its image. • Our software developers are *tweaking* [=fine-tuning] the program. • We just wanted to *tweak* his original idea a bit.

2 : to injure (a part of your body) slightly • He *tweaked* his ankle playing soccer.

3 : to pinch and pull (something) with a sudden movement • My brother hates it when our grandmother *tweaks* his cheek.

4 chiefly US : to criticize or make fun of (someone or some-

thing) • His friends *tweaked* [=teased] him for gaining weight.

²**tweak** *noun*, *pl* tweaks [count]

1 : a small change made in order to improve something • Our software developer decided that the program needed a few *tweaks*. [=small improvements]

2 : a sudden pull or twist that causes a slight injury • He gave his knee a *tweak* [=he tweaked his knee] playing racquetball.

3 : an act of pinching or pulling something • She gave his cheek a *tweak*.

twee /ˈtwiː/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] chiefly Brit, informal + disapproving : sweet or cute in a way that is silly or sentimental • The movie was a bit *twee* for my taste.

tweed /ˈtwiːd/ *noun*, *pl* tweeds

1 [count, noncount] : a rough, woolen cloth that is woven with different colored threads • a skirt made of *tweed* — often used before another noun • a *tweed* jacket/suit

2 *tweeds* [plural] : tweed clothing (such as a suit) • The elderly professor was always seen in his *tweeds*.

tweedy /ˈtwiːdi/ *adj* tweed-i-er; -est [also more ~; most ~]

1 : made of tweed or resembling tweed • The fabric is a *tweedy* blend of wool and mohair. • a *tweedy* jacket

2 informal : wearing tweed clothing or tending to wear tweed clothing — used to describe members of the British upper class, college professors, etc. • The new laws banning fox hunting caused outrage in *tweedy* circles. • a *tweedy* English gentleman • a *tweedy* professor

¹**tween** /ˈtwiːn/ *prep*, literary : BETWEEN

²**tween** *noun*, *pl* tweens [count] US : a boy or girl who is 11 or 12 years old : PRETEEN • a movie that appeals to *tweens*

tweet /ˈtwiːt/ *verb* tweets; tweet-ed; tweet-ing [no obj] : to make a short, high sound • A few birds were *tweeting* in the trees.

— **tweet** *noun*, *pl* tweets [count] • the *tweets* of the birds • The *tweet* of the referee's whistle stopped the game.

tweet-er /ˈtwiːtə/ *noun*, *pl* -ers [count] technical : a speaker (sense 5) that produces high sounds — compare SUBWOOFER, WOOFER

twee-zers /ˈtwiːzəz/ *noun* [plural] : a small tool that is made of two narrow pieces of metal which are joined at one end and that is used to hold, move, or pull very small objects • He used (a pair of) *tweezers* to take a splinter out of his finger. — see picture at GROOMING

¹**twelfth** /ˈtwelfθ/ *noun*, *pl* twelfths

1 [singular] : number 12 in a series • I come home on the *twelfth*. [=the twelfth day of the month]

2 [count] : one of 12 equal parts of something • a *twelfth* of the population

²**twelfth** *adj* : occupying the number 12 position in a series • the *twelfth* day in a row • finished in *twelfth* place

— **twelfth** *adv* • Our son finished *twelfth* in the race. • the *twelfth* best-selling book

twelve /ˈtwelv/ *noun*, *pl* twelves

1 [count] : the number 12

2 [count] : the 12th in a set or series • question number *twelve*

3 [noncount] : twelve o'clock • “What time is it?” “It's *twelve*.” • I have lunch at *twelve*.

4 **the Twelve** : the twelve original disciples of Jesus Christ

— **twelve** *adj* • It was a *twelve*-hour flight. • *twelve* days later

— **twelve** *pronoun* • All *twelve* (of them) came to the party.

twen-ty /ˈtwenti/ *noun*, *pl* -ties

1 [count] : the number 20

2 [count] : the 20th in a set or series • item/question *twenty*

3 *twenties* [plural] a : the numbers ranging from 20 to 29 • Tomorrow the temperature will be in the low *twenties*. b : a set of years ending in digits ranging from 20 to 29 • She's in her *twenties*. • the gangsters of the *twenties* [=of the 1920s]

4 [count] a US : a twenty-dollar bill • All I have is a *twenty*. b Brit : a twenty-pound note

— **twen-ti-eth** /ˈtwentijəθ/ *noun*, *pl* -eths [count] • What are you doing on the *twentieth*? [=the twentieth day of the month] • a *twentieth* of the population — **twentieth** *adj* • their *twentieth* anniversary — **twenty** *adj* • It was a *twenty*-hour flight. • *twenty* days later — **twenty** *pronoun* • Only *twenty* showed up for the review session. • We spent forty dollars and had *twenty* left.

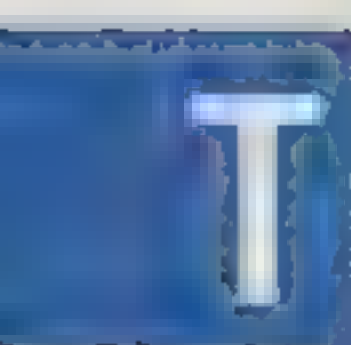
twen-ty-four seven or 24-7 or 24/7 /ˈtwentiˈfoʊˈsevn/ *adv*, informal : all the time : twenty-four hours a day and seven days a week • She worries about you *24/7*. • The store is open *24/7*.

twen-ty-one /ˌtwentiˈwʌn/ *noun* [noncount] US : BLACK-JACK 1

twen-ty-some-thing /ˈtwentiˌsʌmθɪŋ/ *noun*, *pl* -things



tutu



[count] *informal* : a person who is between 20 and 29 years old • The magazine is aimed primarily at *twentysomethings*.

— **twentysomething** *adj* • a *twentysomething* customer

twen·ty–twen·ty or **20/20** /'twenti'twenti/ *adj* : having good vision and able to see without glasses • My mother has 20/20 vision.

twenty-twenty hindsight or **20/20 hindsight** : the full knowledge and complete understanding that you have about an event only after it has happened • With 20/20 hindsight we now see where our strategy went wrong.

twen·ty–two or **.22** /'twenti'tu:/ *noun, pl twenty-twos or .22s* [count] : a gun that fires small bullets • My uncle used a .22 to shoot rabbits. — often used before another noun • a .22 caliber handgun • a .22 rifle

twerp /'twɜ:p/ *noun, pl twerps* [count] *informal* : someone who is stupid or annoying • Some little *twerp* took her seat. • Her boyfriend's just a pretentious *twerp*.

twice /'twais/ *adv*

1 : two times : on two occasions • I only wore it *twice*. • I called you *twice*. • He has rehearsals *twice* a month. • He *twice* lost to younger opponents. • We visited them *twice* in 10 years. • The dictionary has been *twice* updated since 1993. • I've been there at least *twice*. • We've eaten at that restaurant *once or twice*. [=one or two times] • We go to Europe *twice a year*. [=two times every year] • The mail is delivered *twice a day*. [=two times every day]

2 : doubled in amount or degree • The new house is *twice* [=two times] as large as our old one. • He must be *twice* her age. • The population is *twice* that of Canada. • The new one costs about *twice* as much. • He could earn *twice* his present salary at the new job. • *Twice* two is four. [=two times two is/ equals four]

think twice see ¹THINK

twid·dle /'twɪdl/ *verb* **twid·dles; twid·dled; twid·dling** : to turn (something) back and forth slightly [+ *obj*] Just *twiddle* the dial on the radio a bit for better reception. • *Twiddle* the knob on the telescope until things are in focus. • She *twiddled* her pen while she talked on the phone. [no *obj*] She *twiddled* with her pen while she talked on the phone.

twiddle your thumbs *informal* : to do nothing : to waste time while you wait for something to happen • I was just *twiddling my thumbs* until the phone rang.

— **twiddle** *noun, pl twiddles* [count] *Brit* • Give the knob a *twiddle*.

¹**twig** /'twɪɡ/ *noun, pl twigs* [count] : a small branch of a tree or bush • We should gather up small *twigs* for the campfire. — see color picture on page C6

— **twig·gy** /'twɪɡi/ *adj* **twig·gi·er; -est** • big *twiggy* birds' nests • *twiggy* trees [=trees that have many small branches]

²**twig** *verb* **twigs; twigged; twig·ging** *Brit, informal* : to understand (something) suddenly [+ *obj*] He seemed confused until he *twigged* that something was going on. [no *obj*] I had to explain it to him three times but he finally *twigged*.

twi·light /'twai,lait/ *noun*

1 [noncount] **a** : the light from the sky at the end of the day when night is just beginning • The sun set and *twilight* fell. • in the autumn *twilight* **b** : the period when day is ending and night is beginning • We had to stop working at *twilight*. [=dusk] — often used before another noun • a *twilight* baseball game [=a game played at twilight] • We heard the birds chirping in the *twilight* hours.

2 [singular] : a period when something is ending • He's in the *twilight* of his career. [=the last part of his career] — often used before another noun • He became less radical in his *twilight* years.

twilight world *noun* [singular] : a mysterious or secret world • the *twilight world* of informants and spies

twilight zone *noun* [singular]

1 : a situation or an idea that is unclear or confusing • a legal *twilight zone* [=a legal situation that is hard to understand] • a *twilight zone* between war and peace

2 : a world of fantasy where things are not real • He gets lost in the *twilight zone* of video games.

twi·lit /'twai,lɪt/ *adj* : lighted by twilight • a *twilit* garden

twill /'twɪl/ *noun* [noncount] : cloth that is made in a way that produces a pattern of diagonal lines • cotton *twill* pants

¹**twin** /'twin/ *noun, pl twins* [count]

1 : either one of two babies that are born at the same time to the same mother • She's the mother of *twins*. • The *twins* went swimming after lunch. • My sister just had *twins*. • Sarah and her brother are *twins*. • I didn't know she had a *twin*. [=a sister/brother who is her twin] — compare QUADRUPLET,

QUINTUPLET, SEXTUPLET, TRIPLET; see also CONJOINED TWIN, FRATERNAL TWIN, IDENTICAL TWIN

2 : either one of two similar things that form a pair • I found one glove but I can't find its *twin*. [=I can't find the other glove]

²**twin** *adj, always used before a noun*

1 — used to describe children who are twins • my *twin* brother [=my brother who is my twin] • They had *twin* girls.

2 : made up of two similar things that are used together • a *twin-engine* airplane [=an airplane that has two engines]

3 : forming one of a pair of related or connected ideas or places • the *twin* goals of reducing oil dependence and protecting the environment

³**twin** *verb* **twins; twinned; twin·ning** [+ *obj*]

1 : to bring (two things) together in close association — usually used as (be) *twinned* • Research is *twinned* [=coupled] with technology. • They will be *twinned* [=paired] in the pages of history. • two cultures with a *twinned* destiny

2 *Brit* : to form a relationship between (two towns in two countries) — usually used as (be) *twinned* • Our town is *twinned* with a town of roughly the same size in France.

twin bed *noun, pl ~ beds* [count]

1 : either one of a pair of single beds that match • Do you want a room with a double bed or *twin beds*?

2 *US* : a bed that is big enough for only one person : a single bed — see picture at BED

— **twin-bed·ded** *adj, Brit* • a *twin-bedded* hotel room

¹**twine** /'twain/ *noun* [noncount] : a string made of two or more threads twisted together • The package was wrapped in brown paper and tied with *twine*. • a strong piece of *twine*

²**twine** *verb* **twines; twined; twin·ing** : to twist or wrap around (someone or something) [+ *obj*] She *twined* her arms around him. • The tree was *twining* its branches around the chimney. [=the branches were growing around the chimney] [no *obj*] Ivy *twines* around the columns.

twinge /'twɪndʒ/ *noun, pl twinges* [count]

1 : a sudden and usually slight pain • He felt a *twinge* of arthritis when he stood up. • I still feel an occasional *twinge* in my leg from the accident.

2 : a sudden slight feeling or emotion • I felt a *twinge* of guilt/jealousy. • I must admit to a *twinge* of envy. • a *twinge* of sadness

¹**twin·kle** /'twɪŋkəl/ *noun* [singular] : a quick flash of light : a sparkle or flicker of light • We saw the *twinkle* of a candle in the window.

a *twinkle in your eye* : a friendly or happy expression in your eyes • He always talks about his children with a *twinkle in his eye*. • Her grandchildren put a *twinkle in her eye*. [=made her happy]

in the *twinkle of an eye* *informal* : very quickly : in a very short time • He was back in the *twinkle of an eye*.

— **twin·kly** /'twɪŋkəli/ *adj* **-kli·er; -est** [also more ~; most ~] • *twinkly* lights

²**twinkle** *verb* **twins; twinned; twin·ning** [no *obj*]

1 : to shine with an unsteady light : to produce small flashes of light • The lights of the city *twinkled* in the distance. • Stars *twinkle* in the night sky. • *twinkling* Christmas lights

2 of the eyes : to have a friendly or happy expression • Her eyes *twinkled* with excitement/joy/pride.

twin·kling /'twɪŋkəlɪŋ/ *noun*

in a *twinkling* or in the *twinkling of an eye* : very quickly : in a very short time • He was back in a *twinkling*.

twin·set /'twin'set/ *noun, pl -sets* [count] : a woman's pull-over sweater and buttoned outer sweater that match and are worn together

twin-size /'twin'saɪz/ *adj, US, of a bed* : having a size of 39 inches by 75 inches (about 1.0 by 1.9 meters) — compare FULL-SIZE, KING-SIZE, QUEEN-SIZE

twin town *noun, pl ~ towns* [count] *Brit* : SISTER CITY

¹**twirl** /'twɜ:l/ *verb* **twirls; twirled; twirl·ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to turn (something) around and around quickly • *twirl* a baton

2 [no *obj*] : to turn or spin around and around • They *twirled* past us on the dance floor. • The cheerleaders jumped and *twirled*. • The kite twisted and *twirled* in the wind.

3 [+ *obj*] : to twist or wrap (something) around something • He was nervously *twirling* his hair. [=turning a lock of his hair over and over again with his finger] • The chef *twirled* the noodles around his fork.

— **twirl·er** /'twɜ:lə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count] • The baton *twirlers* preceded the marching band in the parade.

²**twirl** *noun, pl twirls* [count] : an act of turning or spinning

around quickly • The dancers executed perfect *twirls*.

¹twist /'twɪst/ verb **twists; twist-ed; twist-ing**

1 [+ *obj*] **a** : to bend or turn (something) in order to change its shape • The toy can be *twisted* into different shapes. • She *twisted* balloons into the shapes of different animals. **b** : to bend or turn (something) into a shape or position that is not normal or natural • The antenna was *twisted* out of shape. • The car was a heap of *twisted* metal after the accident. • She *twisted* [=contorted] her face as if she was about to cry. • He *twists* his lip into an odd expression when he's thinking.

2 : to turn (something) in a circular motion with your hand [+ *obj*] *twist* the dials on the radio [no *obj*] The bottle cap *twists* off.

3 [+ *obj*] : to pull off or break (something) by turning it — often + *off* • He *twisted* a small branch *off* the tree.

4 [no *obj*] : to turn a part of your body around : to change your position • Everyone in the audience *twisted* in their seats to see what made the noise. • He *twisted* around to face me.

5 [+ *obj*] : to hurt (your ankle, knee, wrist, etc.) by turning it too far • I *twisted* my ankle playing softball.

6 [+ *obj*] : to combine several threads or wires by wrapping them around one another • *Twist* the wire ends together to make an electrical connection. • Rope is made by *twisting* many threads together.

7 : to wrap or wind (something) around something [+ *obj*] I like the way she *twists* [=coils, wraps] that scarf around her neck. [no *obj*] Ivy *twisted* [=wound] around the columns of the porch.

8 [+ *obj*] : to change the meaning of (something, such as a word) unfairly • He was accused of *twisting* [=distorting] the facts. • He *twisted my words* [=he repeated what I said in a way that had a different meaning] and made it seem like I was angry.

9 [no *obj*] : to curve or change direction suddenly • Be careful, the road *twists* up ahead. • a *twisting* path

twist and turn **1** : to curve or change direction often • The road along the coast *twists and turns*. **2** : to move with twisting motions : to be restless and to change position often • A little boy was *twisting and turning* [=moving a lot] in the seat behind me.

twist someone's arm **1** : to grab someone's arm and bend it in order to cause pain • He *twisted my arm* behind my back and forced me into the car. **2** informal : to try to force someone to do something • My wife really had to *twist my arm* to get me to apologize to my boss. — see also ARM-TWISTING

twist the knife (in the wound) see ¹KNIFE

²twist noun, pl **twists** [count]

1 : an act of turning or twisting • a simple *twist* of the wrist • The jar should open with a *twist* of the lid.

2 : a turn, curve, or bend in a road, river, etc. • The road has some nasty *twists*. • The coastal road had many *twists and turns*.

3 a : an unexpected or strange occurrence • The plot has many *twists*. [=surprises] • It was a film noir with some clever *twists*. • In an unusual *twist*, the police arrested one of their own. • They were brought together by a strange *twist of fate*. **b** : something new created by changing something slightly • It's a new *twist* [=variation] on an old recipe.

4 : a small piece of lemon or lime peel used to flavor a drink • a diet cola with a *twist* of lemon

5 the twist : a lively dance from the 1960s in which dancers twist their bodies quickly from side to side • We did *the twist*. **get your knickers in a twist** see KNICKERS

round the twist Brit, informal : CRAZY • Her constant complaining is driving me *round the twist*. [= (US) around the bend]

twist-ed /'twɪstəd/ adj [more ~; most ~] : strange and unpleasant : not normal • He has a *twisted* [=sick] sense of humor.

twist-er /'twɪstə/ noun, pl **-ers** [count] US, somewhat informal : TORNADO — see also TONGUE TWISTER

twist tie noun, pl ~ **ties** [count] US : a small piece of wire that you use to close something (such as a plastic bag) by twisting the ends together

twit /'twɪt/ noun, pl **twits** [count] informal : a stupid or foolish person • Only a complete *twit* would insult his hosts.

¹twitch /'twɪtʃ/ verb **twitch-es; twitched; twitch-ing**

1 [no *obj*] : to make a slight, sudden movement that is not controlled or deliberate • His left leg *twitched*. • Her mouth was *twitching* as she began to cry.

2 [+ *obj*] : to move or pull (something) with a sudden motion • The rabbit *twitched* its ears.

²twitch noun, pl **twitches** [count]

1 : a slight, sudden movement of a muscle or body part that you do not control • sudden muscle *twitches* • a *twitch* of pain

2 : a sudden and quick movement or change • Economists are studying every *twitch* and hiccup of the business cycle.

— **twitchy** /'twɪtʃi/ adj **twitch-i-er; twitch-i-est** [also more ~; most ~]

twitch-er /'twɪtʃə/ noun, pl **-ers** [count] Brit, informal : BIRD-WATCHER

¹twit-ter /'twɪtə/ verb **-ters; -tered; -ter-ing**

1 : to make fast and usually high sounds [no *obj*] The birds were *twittering* in the trees. [+ *obj*] A robin *twittered* its morning song.

2 [no *obj*] : to talk in a quick and informal way about unimportant things • What are those people *twittering* about?

²twitter noun, pl **-ters** [count]

1 : the short, high sounds that birds make • The *twitter* of songbirds filled the air.

2 : a light, silly laugh • The teacher heard *twitters* [=giggles] coming from the back of the classroom.

in a twitter informal : very nervous or excited about something. • She was all *in a twitter* about the birthday party.

— see also ATWITTER

twittering noun, pl **-ings** [count] : ²TWITTER • the *twittering* of the birds

two /tu:/ noun, pl **twos**

1 [count] : the number 2

2 [count] : the second in a set or series • page *two*

3 [noncount] : two o'clock • It was *two* in the morning.

a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush see BIRD

a thing or two see THING

in two : into two equal parts : in half • He cut the apple *in two*.

in twos : in groups of two • You will be working *in twos*. [=in pairs]

in two shakes see ²SHAKE

it takes two, it takes two to tango see ¹TAKE

of two minds, in two minds see ¹MIND

put two and two together : to make a correct guess based on what you have seen or heard : to figure something out • You weren't home so I *put two and two together* and went back to your office to find you.

put/stick two fingers up at someone see ¹FINGER

serve two masters see ¹SERVE

two by two : in groups of two : in pairs • The children lined up *two by two*.

two cents see CENT

two left feet see ¹FOOT

two's company, three's a crowd see COMPANY

two sides of the same coin see ¹COIN

— **two** adj • a *two-hour* test • I had met him just *two* days earlier. — **two** pronoun • There are only *two* left. • Come back in a week or *two*. [=come back sometime between one and two weeks from now]

Do not confuse *two* with *to* or *too*.

two-bit /tu:'bɪt/ adj, always used before a noun, informal : not very important or valuable • a *two-bit* thief/town/opinion

two bits noun [plural] US, old-fashioned : twenty-five cents • I remember when you could buy a cup of coffee for *two bits*.

two-by-four /tu:'baɪ'fɔː/ noun, pl **-fours** [count] US : a piece of wood that has been cut to be long and straight so that it can be used for building things and that is about 2 inches thick and 4 inches wide • We used *two-by-fours* to build the porch.

two-dimensional adj

1 : having only two dimensions (such as length and width) • a *two-dimensional* [=flat] map/image

2 [more ~; most ~] *disapproving* : not having qualities that are like the qualities of a real person • The characters in this novel are *two-dimensional* and the story is shallow.

two-edged adj

1 : having a blade that is sharp on both sides : having two sharp edges • a *two-edged* knife

2 : able to be understood in two different ways : having two different meanings • There was a *two-edged* message in the speech. • Fame is a *two-edged sword*. [=there are both good and bad parts of fame]

two-faced /tu:'feɪst/ adj [more ~; most ~] informal + dis-

approving : not honest or sincere : saying different things to different people in order to get their approval instead of speaking and behaving honestly • *two-faced* [=hypocritical] politicians • He's a *two-faced* liar.

two-fold /'tu:ˌfəʊld/ *adj*

1 : twice as much or as many • a *twofold* increase in spending
2 : having two parts • The aims of the study are *twofold*.

— **two-fold** /'tu:ˌfəʊld/ *adv* • Our funding increased *twofold* last year.

two-hand-ed /'tu:ˌhændəd/ *adj*

1 : using or needing both hands • a *two-handed* sword • She scored a point with a *two-handed* backhand. • He made a *two-handed* catch.

2 : needing two people • a *two-handed* saw

two-hand-er /'tu:ˌhændə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count]

1 : something that is done with both hands • She hit a *two-hander* [=a two-handed tennis shot] down the line.

2 : a play that is written to be performed by two actors

two-pence /'tʌpəns/ *noun* [noncount] *Brit* : the sum of two pence — called also *tup-pence* /'tʌpəns/

two-piece suit *noun, pl ~ suits* [count] : a suit consisting of a jacket with matching pants or a jacket with a matching skirt — compare **THREE-PIECE SUIT**

two-ply /'tu:ˌplaɪ/ *adj* : having two layers of material • *two-ply* cotton underwear • *two-ply* toilet paper

two-seater *noun, pl -ers* [count] : a car, airplane, or piece of furniture that only has enough seating space for two people • His new car is a little *two-seater*.

two-some /'tu:səm/ *noun, pl -somes* [count] : a group of two people or things • They became a *twosome* [=couple] after their second year of college. • We were the first *twosome* out on the golf course this morning.

two-time /'tu:ˌtaɪm/ *verb -times; -timed; -tim-ing* *informal* : to be unfaithful to (your husband, wife, partner, etc.) by having a sexual relationship with someone else [+ *obj*] He *two-timed* [=cheated on] his girlfriend with her best friend. [no *obj*] She finally dumped her *two-timing* [=unfaithful] husband.

— **two-tim-er** *noun, pl -ers* [count]

two-tone /'tu:ˌtəʊn/ *adj, always used before a noun* : having two colors or two shades of one color • a *two-tone* paint job • *two-tone* shoes

two-way *adj*

1 : moving or allowing movement in both directions • *two-way* traffic • a *two-way* street — compare **ONE-WAY**, **THREE-WAY**

2 : involving two people or groups • Communication is a *two-way* process. • Trust between two people is a *two-way* **street** [=trust requires effort from both people] — compare **ONE-WAY**, **THREE-WAY**

3 : made to send and receive messages • a *two-way* radio — compare **ONE-WAY**

two-way mirror *noun, pl ~ -rors* [count] : **ONE-WAY MIRROR**

TX *abbr* Texas

ty-coon /taɪˈku:n/ *noun, pl -coons* [count] : a very wealthy and powerful business person • a business/media/oil/ship-ping *tycoon*

tying *present participle of* ²**TIE**

tyke *also* **tike** /taɪk/ *noun, pl tykes* *also* **tikes** [count] *informal*

1 : a small child • an active *tyke*

2 *Brit* : a person from Yorkshire

tympani *variant spelling of* **TIMPANI**

tym-pa-num /'tɪmpənəm/ *noun, pl -na* /-nə/ *also* **-nums** [count] *technical* : **EARDRUM**

¹**type** /taɪp/ *noun, pl types*

1 [count] : a particular kind or group of things or people • What *type* [=sort] of food do you like? • We were not prepared to face this *type* of crisis. • We studied various *types* of trees. • a seedless *type* of orange • Allergies of this *type* [=kind] are common. • He only likes two *types* of music. • She likes all *types* of books. — see also **BLOOD TYPE**

2 [singular] : a particular kind of person • She's a real outdoors *type*. [=she loves hiking, camping, etc., in the outdoors] • The dinner guests were mostly urban *types*. [=people who lived in the city] • He's *not her type*. [=he is not the kind of man she is attracted to] • Her mother is *not the type* to complain. [=she does not often complain]

3 [noncount] **a** : printed letters • *italic type* **b** : small metal

blocks that are used for printing letters and numbers on paper • *lead type*

revert to type see **REVERT**

²**type** *verb types; typed; typ-ing*

1 : to write with a computer keyboard or typewriter [no *obj*] How fast can you *type*? • I never learned how to *type*. [+ *obj*] *Type* your name here. • She asked her secretary to *type* a memo. — sometimes + *up* • Can you *type* this *up* for me?

2 [+ *obj*] *technical* : to find out what group something is in • The lab will *type* this blood sample. [=the lab will determine what type of blood the sample is]

— **typing** *noun* [noncount] • *genetic typing*

type-cast /'taɪp,kæst, *Brit* 'taɪp,kɑ:st/ *verb -cast; -cast; -cast-ing* [+ *obj*] : to always give (an actor or actress) the same kind of role : to cause people to think that (an actor or actress) should always play the same kind of role • Her television work *typecast* her as a helpless victim. — often used as (be) *typecast* • He feared *being typecast* as a criminal.

type-face /'taɪp,feɪs/ *noun, pl -fac-es* [count] : a set of letters, numbers, etc., that are all in the same style and that are used in printing : **FONT** • The book's *typeface* is very elegant.

type-set-ting /'taɪp,seɪtɪŋ/ *noun* [noncount] : the process or job of arranging type for printing • a *typesetting* system

— **type-set** /'taɪp,seɪt/ *verb* [+ *obj*] • *typeset* a magazine article

— **type-set-ter** /'taɪp,seɪtə/ *noun, pl -ters* [count] • The manuscript has been sent to the typesetter.

type-writ-er /'taɪp,rɪtə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count] : a machine that prints letters or figures on a sheet of paper when a person pushes its keys

type-writ-ing /'taɪp,rɪtɪŋ/ *noun* [noncount]

1 : the use of a typewriter

2 : writing done with a typewriter

type-writ-ten /'taɪp,rɪtɪn/ *adj* : written by using a typewriter or a computer • five *typewritten* [=typed] pages

ty-phoid /taɪˈfɔɪd/ *noun* [noncount] *medical* : a serious disease that is passed from one person to another in dirty food or water — called also *typhoid fever*

ty-phoon /taɪˈfu:n/ *noun, pl -phoons* [count] : an extremely large, powerful, and destructive storm that occurs especially in the region of the Philippines or the China Sea

ty-phus /taɪˈfəs/ *noun* [noncount] *medical* : a serious disease that is carried by small insects that live on the bodies of people and animals and that causes high fever, headache, and a dark red rash — called also *typhus fever*

typ-i-cal /'tɪpɪkəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : normal for a person, thing, or group : average or usual • We had a *typical* [=normal] New England winter. • a *typical* example • It was his *typical* response. • It was *typical* of her to be late. [=she's often late]

2 : happening in the usual way • It was a *typical* Saturday night for us. • a *typical* scenario • We wanted him to have the *typical* college experience of living on campus.

typ-i-cal-ly /'tɪpɪkli/ *adv* [more ~; most ~]

1 : generally or normally — used to say what normally happens • *Typically*, the members of our staff receive little recognition. • We *typically* go for coffee after our walk. • These recitals *typically* [=usually] last one hour. • I *typically* order the steak when I eat there.

2 : in the usual way — used to describe what is normal or expected of a certain place, person, situation, etc. • *Typically*, she was late. [=she was late, as she often/usually is] • I tried to get him to talk, but he was *typically* reluctant to say anything. • They serve *typically* American food. [=the kind of food that is usual/typical in America]

typ-i-fy /'tɪpəˌfaɪ/ *verb -fies; -fied; -fy-ing* [+ *obj*]

1 : to represent what is normal for (something) : to be a good or typical example of (something) • His heroic actions *typified* the courage of all the firefighters at the scene. • The decor *typifies* the elegance of royal residences. • He *typifies* what a professional athlete should be.

2 : to have the usual characteristics of (something) : to be a typical part or feature of (something) • Gothic architecture is *typified* by soaring rooflines and stained glass.

typ-ist /'taɪpɪst/ *noun, pl -ists* [count]

1 : a person who uses a typewriter or a computer keyboard • She's a good/poor *typist*. [=she types well/badly]

2 : a person who works in an office and whose main job is typing letters, memos, etc.

ty-po /'taɪpəʊ/ *noun, pl -pos* [count] *informal* : a mistake (such as a misspelled word) in typed or printed text • I spotted three *typos* on the menu.

ty-pog-ra-pher /taɪˈpɑ:grəfə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count] : a per-

son whose job is to choose the style, arrangement, or appearance of printed letters on a page : a person who is skilled in typography

ty-pog-ra-phy /taɪˈpɔːgrəfi/ *noun* [noncount]

1 : the work of producing printed pages from written material

2 : the style, arrangement, or appearance of printed letters on a page

– **ty-po-graph-i-cal** /ˌtaɪpəˈgræfɪkəl/ *also* **ty-po-graph-ic** /ˌtaɪpəˈgræfɪk/ *adj* • The book contains a number of **typographical errors**. [= (informal) *typos*] – **ty-po-graph-i-cal-ly** /ˌtaɪpəˈgræfɪkli/ *adv*

ty-pol-o-gy /taɪˈpɔːlədʒi/ *noun*, *pl* **-gies** [count, noncount]

formal : a system used for putting things into groups according to how they are similar : the study of how things can be divided into different types

– **ty-po-log-i-cal** /ˌtaɪpəˈlɔːdʒɪkəl/ *adj*

ty-ran-ni-cal /təˈrænikəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : using power over people in a way that is cruel and unfair • a **tyrannical** dictatorship • Everyone was afraid of their overbearing and **tyrannical** boss.

– **ty-ran-ni-cal-ly** /təˈrænikli/ *adv*

tyr-an-nize *also* *Brit* **tyr-an-nise** /ˈtɪrənnaɪz/ *verb* **-niz-es; -nized; -niz-ing** : to use power to treat (people) in a cruel and unfair way [+ *obj*] a government that **tyrannizes** its own people • The owner of the company is nothing but a bully who **tyrannizes** his employees. [= who behaves like a tyrant toward his employees] [no *obj*] — + *over* • He **tyrannizes over** his employees.

ty-ran-no-sau-rus /təˈrænəˈsɔːrəs/ *noun*, *pl* **-rus-es**

[*count*] : a very large meat-eating dinosaur — called also *T. rex*, *tyrannosaurus rex* /-ˈrɛks/

tyr-an-nous /ˈtɪrənəs/ *adj*, *old-fashioned* : TYRANNICAL • **tyrannous** dictators

tyr-an-ny /ˈtɪrəni/ *noun*, *pl* **-nies**

1 : cruel and unfair treatment by people with power over others [noncount] The refugees were fleeing **tyranny**. • He was dedicated to ending the **tyranny** of slavery. • a nation ruled by **tyranny** • the **tyranny of the majority** [= a situation in which a group of people are treated unfairly because their situation is different from the situation of most of the people in a democratic country] [count] She felt lost in the bureaucratic **tyrannies** of the university system. — sometimes used figuratively • the **tyrannies** of fashion

2 [count] : a government in which all power belongs to one person : the rule or authority of a tyrant • The king sought an absolute **tyranny** over the colonies.

ty-rant /ˈtɪrənt/ *noun*, *pl* **-rants** [count]

1 : a ruler who has complete power over a country and who is cruel and unfair • The country was ruled by a corrupt **tyrant** [= *despot*] for decades.

2 : someone who uses power in a cruel and unfair way • Our boss is a real **tyrant**.

tyre *Brit spelling of* ²TIRE

ty-ro /ˈtaɪrou/ *noun*, *pl* **-ros** [count] : a person who has just started learning or doing something : a beginner or novice • Most of the people in the class were **tyros** like me.

tzar, tzarina, tzarist *variant spellings of* CZAR, CZARINA, CZARIST

U

U or U /ˈjuː/ *noun*, *pl* **u's or U's** /ˈjuːz/

1 : the 21st letter of the English alphabet [count] There are three **u's** in “unusual.” [noncount] a word that starts with **u**

2 [count] *Brit* : a grade given to a student whose work is judged as not satisfactory

U. *abbr* university

U-bend *noun*, *pl* **-bends** [count] *Brit, technical* : ¹TRAP 5

über- *also* **uber-** /ˈuːbər/ *prefix, informal*

1 — used to indicate that someone is a great or extreme example of a particular kind of person • an **übercelebrity**

2 : better, larger, or greater than : SUPER- • He is **übercool**. • an **überexpensive** diamond ring

ubiq-ui-tous /juˈbɪkwətəs/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : seeming to be seen everywhere • **ubiquitous** celebrities • The company's advertisements are **ubiquitous**.

– **ubiq-ui-tous-ly** *adv* – **ubiq-ui-tous-ness** *noun* [noncount] – **ubiq-ui-ty** /juˈbɪkwəti/ *noun* [noncount] *formal* • the **ubiquity** of the company's ads

U-boat /ˈjuːˌbɔʊt/ *noun*, *pl* **-boats** [count] : a German submarine

ud-der /ˈʌdər/ *noun*, *pl* **-ders** [count] : the bag-shaped part of a cow, goat, etc., that hangs below the belly and produces milk

UFO /ˌjuːˌɛfˈoʊ/ *noun*, *pl* **UFO's or UFOs** /ˌjuːˌɛfˈoʊz/ [count] : a flying object in the sky that some people believe could be a spaceship from another planet • a **UFO** sighting ✦ **UFO** is as an abbreviation of “unidentified flying object.”

ugh /ˈʌg/ *interj, informal* — used to show that you are annoyed, disgusted, or upset about something • **Ugh**, I can't stand that movie.

ug-ly /ˈʌgli/ *adj* **ug-li-er; -est** [*also* more ~; most ~]

1 **a** : unpleasant to look at : not pretty or attractive • That house is **ugly**. • an **ugly** person • an **ugly** shade of green • (*informal*) That dog of yours is (**as**) **ugly as sin**. [=very ugly] **b** : unpleasant to hear • an **ugly** sound/voice

2 : offensive or disgusting • **ugly** habits • an **ugly** racial slur

3 : very bad or unpleasant • They avoided what could have been an **ugly** situation. • Things could get/turn **ugly**. [=nasty] • He has an **ugly** disposition/temper.

rear its ugly head see ¹HEAD

– **ug-li-ness** /ˈʌglinəs/ *noun* [noncount]

ugly duckling *noun*, *pl* ~ **-lings** [count] : a person or thing that is not attractive or successful but that is likely to become attractive or successful in the future • The house is an **ugly duckling**, but it has a lot of potential. • an **ugly duckling** that has become a beautiful swan [=an ugly/unsuccessful person or thing that has become beautiful/successful]

uh /ˈʌ/ *interj, chiefly US, informal* — used when you hesitate because you are not sure about what to say • “What time is it?” “**Uh**, I'm not sure.” • Do you want to, **uh**, go out sometime?

UHF *abbr* ultra high frequency ✦ Ultra high frequency radio waves are used for broadcasting television and some types of radio signals. • **UHF** television stations

uh-huh /ˈʌˈhʌ *but spoken nasally/ interj, informal* — used to show that you agree or understand • “Is that your dog?” “**Uh-huh**.” [=yeah, yes] • “Do you know what I mean?” “**Uh-huh**. I sure do.” — sometimes used to encourage someone to continue talking • “I'm still kind of worried about tomorrow.” “**Uh-huh**.”

uh-oh /ˈʌˌoʊ *with a stop between the vowels/ interj, chiefly US, informal* — used when you realize that you are in a bad situation, that you have made a mistake, etc. • **Uh-oh**, we're in trouble! • **Uh-oh**. What happened?

uh-uh /ˈʌˌʌ *but spoken nasally/ interj, chiefly US, informal* — used to say no or to emphasize a negative answer to a question, request, or offer • “Are you going to the party?” “**Uh-uh**. I have to study.” • I won't do it. **Uh-uh**.

UK *also* **U.K.** *abbr* United Kingdom

uku-le-le /ˌjuːkəˈleɪli/ *noun*, *pl* **-les** [count] : a musical instrument that is like a small guitar with four strings

ul-cer /ˈʌlsər/ *noun*, *pl* **-cers** [count] *medical* : a painful, sore area inside or outside the body • a stomach **ulcer** • a skin **ulcer** — see also PEPTIC ULCER

ul-cer-ate /ˈʌlsəˌreɪt/ *verb* **-ates; -at-ed; -at-ing** [no *obj*] *medical* : to form an ulcer • The wound began to **ulcerate**.

– **ulcerated** *adj* • an **ulcerated** wound [=a wound that has formed an ulcer or many ulcers] • an **ulcerated** stomach/throat – **ul-cer-a-tion** /ˌʌlsəˈreɪʃən/ *noun*, *pl* **-tions** [count, noncount]

ul·na /ˈʌlnə/ *noun*, *pl* -**nae** or -**nas** [*count*] *medical* : the bone in the lower part of your arm on the side that is opposite to your thumb — see picture at **HUMAN**

ul·te·ri·or /ˌʌlˈtɪrɪjə/ *adj* : kept hidden in order to get a particular result • I think she has an **ulterior motive** for helping us. [=she has a secret reason for wanting to help us]

ul·ti·mate /ˈʌltəmət/ *adj*, *always used before a noun*
1 : happening or coming at the end of a process, series of events, etc. • Their **ultimate** [=final] destination was Paris. • What was the **ultimate** [=final, eventual] outcome/result? • Their **ultimate** fate has not yet been decided. • I never doubted their **ultimate** success. [=I never doubted that they would eventually succeed] • The president has **ultimate** [=final] authority/control/responsibility over the decision. • Our **ultimate aim/goal/purpose** is to increase production.

2 : greatest or most extreme — used to say that something or someone is the greatest or most extreme example of a particular type of thing or person • He says that dying for your country is the **ultimate** act of patriotism. • the **ultimate** expression of love • the **ultimate** betrayal/challenge • He was the **ultimate** hero.

3 — used to refer to the original or basic source or cause of something • They traced the river back to its **ultimate** source. • Lack of money is the **ultimate** cause of our problems.

4 : most distant in space or time • the **ultimate** [=farthest] reaches of the universe

2ultimate *noun*

the ultimate in : the greatest or most extreme form or example of (something) • This car is **the ultimate in** safety. [=this car is as safe as a car can be] • They provide their customers with **the ultimate in** service. [=with the best possible service]

ul·ti·mate·ly /ˈʌltəmətli/ *adv*

1 : at the end of a process, period of time, etc. • He **ultimately** [=finally, eventually] agreed to the deal. • I have confidence that the plan will **ultimately** succeed. [=will succeed in the end] • The changes **ultimately** proved to be unnecessary.

2 : at the most basic level : in the central or most important way • **Ultimately**, it's a question of who is more popular.

ul·ti·ma·tum /ˌʌltəˈmeɪtəm/ *noun*, *pl* -**tums** or -**ta** /-tə/ [*count*] : a final threat : a promise that force or punishment will be used if someone does not do what is wanted • She was given an **ultimatum**—work harder or lose her job.

ul·tra- /ˌʌltrə/ *prefix*

1 : beyond : extremely : more than is usual • **ultramodern** • **ultraserious**

2 technical : beyond the range or limits of • **ultraviolet** • **ultrasonic**

ul·tra·ma·rine /ˌʌltrəˈmɑːriːn/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a very bright blue color

— **ultramarine** *adj*

ul·tra·son·ic /ˌʌltrəˈsɒːnɪk/ *adj* — used to describe sounds that are too high for humans to hear • **ultrasonic** frequencies

ul·tra·sound /ˌʌltrəˈsaʊnd/ *noun*, *pl* -**sounds**

1 [*noncount*] : a type of sound that is too high for humans to hear

2 medical : a method of producing images of the inside of the body by using a machine that produces sound waves which are too high to be heard [*noncount*] They used **ultrasound** to examine his heart. • She had an **ultrasound** exam/examination this morning. [*count*] She had an **ultrasound** this morning.

3 [*count*] : an image that is made using ultrasound • She showed me an **ultrasound** of her unborn baby.

ul·tra·vi·o·let /ˌʌltrəˈvaɪələt/ *adj*, *technical* — used to describe rays of light that cannot be seen and that are slightly shorter than the rays of violet light • **ultraviolet** light/radiation

ul·u·late /ˈʌljəˌleɪt, ˈjuːljəˌleɪt/ *verb* -**lates**; -**lat·ed**; -**lat·ing** [*no obj*] *literary* : to cry loudly • a widow **ululating** in sorrow

— **ul·u·la·tion** /ˌʌljəˈleɪʃən, ˈjuːljəˈleɪʃən/ *noun*, *pl* -**tions** [*count, noncount*]

um /ʌm or a prolonged m sound/ *interj* — used when you hesitate because you are not sure about what to say • “Are you coming to the party?” “**Um**, I think so.”

um·ber /ˈʌmbə/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a dark, yellowish brown color

— **umber** *adj*

um·bil·i·cal cord /ˌʌmˈbɪlɪkəl-/ *noun*, *pl* ~ **cords** [*count*] : a long, narrow tube that connects an unborn baby to the placenta of its mother — sometimes used figuratively • The

time has come to **cut/sever the umbilical cord** that keeps us dependent on foreign aid.

um·brage /ˈʌmbrɪdʒ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : a feeling of being offended by what someone has said or done — usually used in the phrase **take umbrage** • I imagine some people will **take umbrage** [=will be offended] when they hear the quote. — often + **at** • I **take umbrage at** [=I am offended by] that remark.

um·brel·la /ˌʌmˈbrɛlə/ *noun*, *pl* -**las** [*count*]

1 : a device that is used for protection from the rain and sun ♦ An umbrella consists of a circle of fabric attached to a folding frame that is connected to a central pole or handle. • You shouldn't go out in the rain without an **umbrella**. • a beach **umbrella**

2 : a group or organization that includes many smaller groups — often used before another noun • an **umbrella** corporation

3 : something that includes several or many different things • The store sells Indian, Asian, and Middle Eastern foods under the **umbrella** of international cuisine. — often used before another noun • I used the heading “Odds and Ends” as an **umbrella term** for items that did not fit anywhere else. • I bought an **umbrella policy** that insures my car, jewelry, and house.

um·laut /ˈuːmˌlaʊt/ *noun*, *pl* -**lauts** [*count*] : a mark “ placed over a vowel (such as a *u* in German) to indicate a specific pronunciation

1um·pire /ˈʌmˌpaɪə/ *noun*, *pl* -**pires** [*count*] : a person who controls play and makes sure that players act according to the rules in a sports event (such as a baseball game or a cricket or tennis match)

2umpire *verb* -**pires**; -**pired**; -**pir·ing** : to be an umpire in a sports event (such as a baseball game) [+ *obj*] Who **umpired** the game? [*no obj*] Who **umpired**?

ump·teen /ˈʌmpˌtiːn/ *adj*, *informal* : very many • I have **umpteen** things to do today. [=I have a lot of things to do today]

— **ump·teenth** /ˈʌmpˌtiːnθ/ *adj* • That's the **umpteenth** time you've said that.

UN also **U.N.** *abbr* United Nations

un- /ʌn/ *prefix*

1 : not • **unhappy** • **unpleasant** • **unlawful** • **unskilled** • **unbreakable** • **unwise**

2 : opposite of : contrary to • **unethical** • **unconstitutional** • **ungodly** • **unorthodox**

3 : do the opposite of : reverse (a specified action) • **untie** • **undress** • **unscrew** • **unfold**

4 : remove (a specified thing) from • **uncork** a wine bottle • **uncover** • **unleash**

un·abashed /ˌʌnəˈbæʃt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not embarrassed or ashamed about openly expressing strong feelings or opinions • She is an **unabashed** supporter/admirer of the president's policies.

— **un·abash·ed·ly** /ˌʌnəˈbæʃədli/ *adv* • They're **unabashedly** proud of their son's accomplishments.

un·abat·ed /ˌʌnəˈbeɪtəd/ *adj* : continuing at full strength or force without becoming weaker • The rain continued **unabated**. • Her popularity remains **unabated**.

un·able /ˌʌnˈeɪbəl/ *adj*, *not used before a noun* : not able to do something • I was **unable** to afford the trip. • He was **unable** to play tennis after the injury.

un·abridged /ˌʌnəˈbrɪdʒd/ *adj* : not shortened by leaving out some parts : not abridged • an **unabridged** reprint of a novel • an **unabridged** dictionary

un·ac·cept·able /ˌʌnɪkˈseptəbəl/ *adj* : not pleasing or welcome : not acceptable • socially **unacceptable** behavior • a word that is **unacceptable** in formal English • Some of her ideas were **unacceptable** to other people.

— **un·ac·cept·ably** /ˌʌnɪkˈseptəbli/ *adv* • The unemployment rate is **unacceptably** high.

un·ac·com·pa·nied /ˌʌnəˈkɑmpənɪd/ *adj*

1 a : without another person : **ALONE** • He attended the party **unaccompanied**. • **Unaccompanied** children are not allowed in the store. • She arrived at the party **unaccompanied by** [=without] her husband. **b** : not together with something specified • All we've had from him is a lot of talk **unaccom-**



umbrella

panied by any real effort to solve the problem.

2 music : played or sung without another musical instrument or singer • a piece written for an *unaccompanied* cello • an *unaccompanied* solo

un-ac-count-able /ˌʌnəˈkaʊntəbəl/ *adj, formal*

1 : not able to be explained : strange or mysterious • She has shown an *unaccountable* reluctance to accept their offer.

2 a : not required to explain actions or decisions — usually + *to* • judges who are not elected and so are *unaccountable to* the public • He remains *unaccountable to* the voters. **b** : not required to be responsible for something — usually + *for* • Despite all the problems he has caused, he remains *unaccountable for* his mistakes.

un-ac-count-ably /ˌʌnəˈkaʊntəbli/ *adv, formal* : in a way that is difficult to explain or understand • She was looking *unaccountably* upset. : for reasons that are hard to understand • *Unaccountably*, the problem was ignored.

un-ac-count-ed /ˌʌnəˈkaʊntəd/ *adj*

unaccounted for — used to say that what happened to someone or something is not known • Many people were *unaccounted for* after the disaster. • A great deal of money remains *unaccounted for*. [=no one knows what happened to the money]

un-ac-cus-tomed /ˌʌnəˈkʌstəmd/ *adj, formal*

1 : not usual or common : not customary • They responded to our request with *unaccustomed* speed.

2 : not familiar with something so that it does not seem normal or usual : not used to something — + *to* • Her pets are *unaccustomed to* travel/traveling. • She was *unaccustomed to* fame.

un-ac-knowl-edged /ˌʌnɪkˈnɔːlɪdʒd/ *adj* : not recognized, accepted, or admitted : not acknowledged • He had a powerful and largely *unacknowledged* effect on the outcome of the election.

un-ac-quaint-ed /ˌʌnəˈkweɪntəd/ *adj*

1 : not having knowledge about something : not having seen or experienced something — often + *with* • I am *unacquainted with* her books. [=I have never read or heard about her books]

2 : not having met : not knowing each other in a personal or social way • *unacquainted* cousins — often + *with* • Although they both lived in the same small town, my friend was *unacquainted with* my brother.

un-adorned /ˌʌnəˈdɔːnd/ *adj* : not decorated or fancy : not adorned • The room is *unadorned* and very plain. • I like her *unadorned* [=simple, plain] writing style.

un-adul-ter-at-ed /ˌʌnəˈdʌltəˌreɪtəd/ *adj*

1 : not having anything added : not adulterated : PURE • *unadulterated* foods

2 : complete and total • They felt *unadulterated* happiness. • *unadulterated* nonsense

un-ad-ven-tur-ous /ˌʌnədˈventʃərəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : afraid to do or try new and dangerous or exciting things • an *unadventurous* eater/cook • When it comes to travel, she's very *unadventurous*.

2 : not exciting or unusual • an *unadventurous* film/menu • I've lived a pretty *unadventurous* life.

un-af-fect-ed /ˌʌnəˈfektəd/ *adj*

1 : not influenced or changed mentally, physically, or chemically • They shortened the book when they made the movie, but the basic story remained *unaffected*. — often + *by* • Her concentration was *unaffected* [=was not affected] *by* the constant noise.

2 : genuine, sincere, or natural • He has a friendly and *unaffected* manner.

un-af-fil-i-at-ed /ˌʌnəˈfɪliˌeɪtəd/ *adj* : not connected with something (such as a program or organization) as a member or partner • Two of the candidates are *unaffiliated* with any political party. • *Unaffiliated* voters cannot vote in a party's primary election.

un-afraid /ˌʌnəˈfreɪd/ *adj, not used before a noun* : not frightened or fearful : not afraid • He is *unafraid* of failure. • They were *unafraid* to take a chance.

un-aid-ed /ˌʌnˈeɪdəd/ *adj* : without help : not aided • patients who can get out of bed *unaided* [=unassisted] • The stars are visible to the *unaided* eye. [=the stars can be seen without using a telescope or binoculars]

un-alien-able /ˌʌnˈeɪlɪjənəbəl/ *adj, chiefly US, formal* : impossible to take away or give up : INALIENABLE • *unalienable* rights

un-aligned /ˌʌnəˈlaɪnd/ *adj* : not associated with other groups, nations, etc. : not aligned • candidates *unaligned*

with any party • *unaligned* nations

un-al-loyed /ˌʌnəˈlɔɪd/ *adj* : not mixed with something else : PURE • (technical) *unalloyed* metals • (literary) *unalloyed* happiness

un-al-ter-able /ˌʌnˈɑːltərəbəl/ *adj* : not capable of being changed or altered • *unalterable* conditions

— **un-al-ter-ably** /ˌʌnˈɑːltərəbli/ *adv* • They are *unalterably* opposed to any increase in taxes.

un-al-tered /ˌʌnˈɑːltəd/ *adj* : not changed or altered : remaining in an original state • *unaltered* photographs • an *unaltered* landscape

un-am-big-u-ous /ˌʌnəmˈbɪɡjʊəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : clearly expressed or understood : not ambiguous • She gave a clear, *unambiguous* answer. • *unambiguous* evidence

— **un-am-big-u-ous-ly** *adv*

un-am-bi-tious /ˌʌnəmˈbɪʃəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : feeling or showing a lack of ambition • an *unambitious* worker/movie

un-Amer-i-can /ˌʌnəˈmerɪkən/ *adj* : not agreeing with American values, principles, or traditions • If you ask me, failing to vote is downright *un-American*. • They were accused of *un-American* activities.

unan-i-mous /juˈnænəməs/ *adj*

1 : agreed to by everyone • a *unanimous* vote • The judges made a *unanimous* ruling.

2 *not used before a noun* : having the same opinion — often + *in* • The councillors were *unanimous in* their approval of the report. [=they all approved the report]

— **una-nim-i-ty** /ˌjuːnəˈnɪməti/ *noun* [*noncount*] • I was surprised by the *unanimity* of their decision. — **unan-i-mous-ly** *adv* • They voted *unanimously*.

un-an-nounced /ˌʌnəˈnaʊnst/ *adj* : surprising and unexpected : not having been announced or spoken about before • The teacher gave the students an *unannounced* test. • They arrived *unannounced* at my door.

un-an-swer-able /ˌʌnˈænsərəbəl/ *adj*

1 : not capable of being answered • an *unanswerable* question

2 : impossible to prove wrong • The argument is *unanswerable*. [=irrefutable]

un-an-swered /ˌʌnˈænsəd/ *adj*

1 : without a reply : not answered • Our questions went *unanswered*. [=our questions were not answered]

2 *US, sports* : scored during a time when an opponent fails to score • The team scored 20 *unanswered* points in the third quarter. [=the team scored 20 points and the opposing team did not score any]

un-an-tic-i-pat-ed /ˌʌnænˈtɪsəpeɪtəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not expected or anticipated : not thought of as a possibility • The new policy has had some *unanticipated* side effects. • *unanticipated* problems

un-apol-o-get-ic /ˌʌnəˈpɔːləˈdʒetɪk/ *adj* : not feeling or showing regret or shame : not apologetic • She was *unapologetic* about her remarks. • He's an *unapologetic* liberal/conservative.

— **un-apol-o-get-i-cal-ly** /ˌʌnəˈpɔːləˈdʒetɪkli/ *adv* • an *unapologetically* old-fashioned person

un-ap-peal-ing /ˌʌnəˈpiːlɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not attractive or appealing • The decorations were *unappealing*. • an *unappealing* choice • an *unappealing* color/taste

un-ap-pe-tiz-ing also *Brit* **un-ap-pe-tis-ing** /ˌʌnˈæpəˌtaɪzɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not appealing to a person's taste : not attractive or appetizing • The food looked *unappetizing*. • an *unappetizing* book title

un-ap-pre-ci-at-ed /ˌʌnəˈpriːʃiˌeɪtəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not given the respect or thanks that is deserved : not appreciated • I feel *unappreciated* at work. • She was an *unappreciated* genius. • Her efforts/talents were *unappreciated*.

un-ap-proach-able /ˌʌnəˈprəʊtʃəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not easy to talk to or deal with : having an unfriendly manner : not approachable • a cold and *unapproachable* person

un-ar-gu-able /ˌʌnˈɑːɡjəwəbəl/ *adj, formal* : certain or clearly true : not open to doubt or argument : INARGUABLE • *unarguable* evidence/proof

— **un-ar-gu-ably** /ˌʌnˈɑːɡjəwəbli/ *adv*

un-armed /ˌʌnˈɑːrmd/ *adj*

1 : not having a weapon : not armed • an *unarmed* security guard

2 : not using or involving a weapon • *unarmed* robbery/combat

un·ashamed /ˌʌnəˈfeɪmd/ *adj* : not feeling or showing shame or guilt : not ashamed • He is *unashamed* of his patriotism. • She was *unashamed* to tell the truth.

— **un·asham·ed·ly** /ˌʌnəˈfeɪmədli/ *adv* • He *unashamedly* began to cry.

un·asked /ˌʌnˈæskt, Brit ˌʌnˈɑːskt/ *adj* : not asked • He felt that there were many *unasked* questions after his demonstration.

unasked for : not requested : not asked for • *unasked for* advice • What they did was unwanted and *unasked for*.

un·as·sail·able /ˌʌnəˈseɪləbəl/ *adj, formal* : not able to be doubted, attacked, or questioned • an *unassailable* [=undeniable, indisputable] fact/truth

— **un·as·sail·ably** /ˌʌnəˈseɪləbli/ *adv*

un·as·ser·tive /ˌʌnəˈsɛtrɪv/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not talking or behaving in a loud and confident way : not assertive • a modest, *unassertive* person • an *unassertive* manner

un·as·sist·ed /ˌʌnəˈsɪstəd/ *adj*

1 : without help or assistance • He is unable to walk *unassisted*. [=unaided]

2 *sports* : done without help from another player • an *unassisted* double play • The goal was *unassisted*.

un·as·sum·ing /ˌʌnəˈsuːmɪŋ, Brit ˌʌnəˈsjuːmɪŋ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *approving* : not having or showing a desire to be noticed, praised, etc. : MODEST • He's just an *unassuming* guy. • They lived in an *unassuming* home/neighborhood.

— **un·as·sum·ing·ly** *adv*

un·at·tached /ˌʌnəˈtæʃt/ *adj*

1 : not married, engaged, or in a serious romantic relationship • My brother is currently *unattached*.

2 : not joined to another building • an *unattached* [=detached] garage

un·at·tend·ed /ˌʌnəˈtendəd/ *adj* : not cared for or watched • Do not leave your child *unattended*. • *Unattended* luggage will be confiscated. • Her health problems have gone *unattended* for too long. [=she has ignored her health problems for too long] • an *unattended* lighthouse • The campfire was left *unattended*.

un·at·trac·tive /ˌʌnəˈtræktɪv/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not beautiful, interesting, or pleasing : not attractive • an *unattractive* man/woman • *unattractive* ideas

— **un·at·trac·tive·ly** *adv* • *unattractively* decorated/dressed/presented

un·au·tho·rized *also* Brit **un·au·tho·rised** /ˌʌnˈɑːθəˌraɪzd/ *adj* : without permission : not authorized • an *unauthorized* use of government vehicles • *Unauthorized* personnel are not allowed in the building. • an *unauthorized* biography [=a biography that is written without the permission of the subject]

un·avail·able /ˌʌnəˈveɪləbəl/ *adj* : not available: such as **a** : not possible to get or use • The shoes are *unavailable* in certain sizes. • The Internet provides many resources that were previously *unavailable* (to us). **b** : not able or willing to do something — often + *for* • Officials were *unavailable* for comment. — often followed by *to* + *verb* • The witness is *unavailable to testify*. • She's *unavailable to teach* the course next semester.

— **un·avail·abil·i·ty** /ˌʌnəˈveɪləˈbɪləti/ *noun* [noncount]

un·avail·ing /ˌʌnəˈveɪlɪŋ/ *adj, formal* : not useful or successful : FUTILE • *unavailing* arguments/efforts

— **un·avail·ing·ly** /ˌʌnəˈveɪlɪŋli/ *adv* • He argued *unavailingly* against the proposed changes.

un·avoid·able /ˌʌnəˈvɔɪdəbəl/ *adj* : not able to be prevented or avoided • The accident was *unavoidable*. • an *unavoidable* fact

— **un·avoid·ably** /ˌʌnəˈvɔɪdəbli/ *adv* • They were *unavoidably* delayed.

un·aware /ˌʌnəˈweə/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not having knowledge about something : not aware — often + *that* • They were *unaware that* they were being watched. — often + *of* • We were *unaware of* the problem. • She seemed *unaware of* what was going on.

— **un·aware·ness** *noun* [singular, noncount] • He claimed *unawareness* of the problem.

un·aware·s /ˌʌnəˈweəz/ *adv* : without warning — used to describe something that happens without being expected • The rainstorm *caught us unawares*. [=we were not expecting the storm] • She was *taken unawares* [=taken by surprise] by the sudden change in plans.

un·bal·ance /ˌʌnˈbæləns/ *verb* -anc·es; -anced; -ancing [+ *obj*] : to cause (something or someone) to stop being balanced, steady, stable, etc. • If too many people stand up, it

will *unbalance* the boat. • The tax cuts have *unbalanced* the budget. • His experiences in the war *unbalanced* his mind. [=made him slightly crazy]

un·bal·anced /ˌʌnˈbælənst/ *adj*

1 : not in a state of balance : not balanced: such as **a** : not having equal weight on all sides • an *unbalanced* load • The weight was *unbalanced*. **b** : not having good or equal amounts of all the necessary parts of something • He's been eating an *unbalanced* diet.

2 : not completely sane • mentally *unbalanced* people

un·bear·able /ˌʌnˈberəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : too bad, harsh, or extreme to be accepted or endured : not bearable • *unbearable* [=intolerable, unendurable] pain • We were in an almost *unbearable* state of excitement.

— **un·bear·ably** /ˌʌnˈberəbli/ *adv* • an *unbearably* harsh climate • an *unbearably* painful condition

un·beat·able /ˌʌnˈbiːtəbəl/ *adj*

1 : not capable of being defeated • an *unbeatable* team

2 : very good or excellent • a restaurant with *unbeatable* food • The store has *unbeatable* prices.

un·beat·en /ˌʌnˈbiːtn/ *adj* : not defeated : not beaten • The team is *unbeaten* so far this season. • He remains *unbeaten* in his career.

un·be·com·ing /ˌʌnbɪˈkʌmɪŋ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : not attractive : not becoming • an *unbecoming* dress • That color is very *unbecoming* on her.

2 *formal* : not appropriate or acceptable for a person in a particular job or position • conduct *unbecoming* an officer [=conduct/behavior that is not appropriate for an officer] — often + *of* or *to* • behavior *unbecoming of/to* a public official

un·be·knownst /ˌʌnbɪˈnəʊnst/ *or* **un·be·known** /ˌʌnbɪˈnəʊn/ *adj*

unbeknownst/unbeknown to : without being known about by (someone) • *Unbeknownst to* the students, the teacher had entered the room. [=the students did not know/realize that the teacher had entered the room] ♦ In U.S. English *unbeknownst* is more common than *unbeknown*. In British English, *unbeknown* is more common.

un·be·lief /ˌʌnbəˈliːf/ *noun* [noncount] *formal* : lack of religious belief • living in an age of *unbelief* — compare DISBELIEF

un·be·liev·able /ˌʌnbəˈliːvəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : difficult or impossible to believe • His story/explanation is *unbelievable*.

2 — used to describe something that is so good, bad, etc., that it is difficult to believe • The destruction was *unbelievable*. • He made an *unbelievable* catch in center field.

— **un·be·liev·ably** /ˌʌnbəˈliːvəbli/ *adv* • an *unbelievably* bizarre story • He's an *unbelievably* [=amazingly] fast runner.

un·be·liev·er /ˌʌnbəˈliːvə/ *noun, pl* -ers [count] : a person who does not believe something; *especially* : a person who does not believe in a particular religious faith

un·be·liev·ing /ˌʌnbəˈliːvɪŋ/ *adj* : feeling or showing that you do not believe something • She had an *unbelieving* look on her face.

— **un·be·liev·ing·ly** *adv* • He stared at the destruction *unbelievingly*.

un·bend /ˌʌnˈbend/ *verb* -bends; -bent /-,bent/; -bending

1 : to make (something) straight or to become straight [+ *obj*] He was bending and *unbending* his fingers. [no *obj*] His fingers were bending and *unbending*.

2 [no *obj*] : to stop being serious or tense : RELAX • He *unbent* a little at the party.

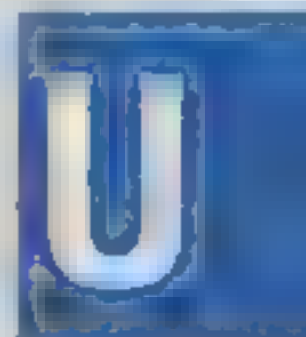
un·bend·ing /ˌʌnˈbendɪŋ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *sometimes disapproving* : not willing to change an opinion, decision, etc. • She was *unbending* [=inflexible] in her decision. • He has an *unbending* will. • *unbending* determination

un·bi·ased /ˌʌnˈbaɪəst/ *adj* : not having or showing an unfair tendency to believe that some people, ideas, etc., are better than others : not biased • an *unbiased* [=impartial] judge • Let me offer an *unbiased* opinion.

un·bid·den /ˌʌnˈbɪdn/ *adj, formal* : not asked for or invited • He appeared *unbidden* [=uninvited] at my door. • thoughts that come to the mind *unbidden*

un·bind /ˌʌnˈbaɪnd/ *verb* -binds; -bound /ˌʌnˈbaʊnd/; -bind·ing [+ *obj*] : UNTIE • She managed to *unbind* her hands. • *Unbind* the prisoner.

un·blem·ished /ˌʌnˈblemɪʃt/ *adj* : not blemished: such as **a** : not having any unwanted marks or blemishes • *unblemished* skin **b** : not harmed or damaged in any way • She has an *unblemished* reputation for honesty.



un·blink·ing /ˌʌnˈblɪŋkɪŋ/ *adj*1 : not blinking • *unblinking* eyes2 : looking at or describing something in a very honest and accurate way • The book provides an *unblinking* view of the causes of the war. • *unblinking* honesty– **un·blink·ing·ly** *adv* • She stared at me *unblinkingly*. [=without blinking] • an *unblinkingly* honest person**un·block** /ˌʌnˈblɒk/ *verb* **-blocks; -blocked; -block·ing** [+ *obj*] : to stop (something) from being blocked • A procedure was done to *unblock* his arteries. • *unblock* [=unclog] a drain**un·born** /ˌʌnˈbɔːn/ *adj* : not yet born • her *unborn* child • *unborn* generations¹**unbound** *past tense and past participle of UNBIND*²**un·bound** /ˌʌnˈbaʊnd/ *adj* : not bound: such as **a** : not controlled or influenced by something • He dresses however he likes and feels *unbound* by convention. **b** : not tied together with something (such as string or rope) • *unbound* stacks of newspapers • long, *unbound* hair **c** : not having a cover or binding • *unbound* pages/copies **d technical** : not held by chemical or physical forces • a test to determine the amount of *unbound* iron in the blood • *unbound* energy**un·bound·ed** /ˌʌnˈbaʊndəd/ *adj* : not limited in any way • *unbounded* enthusiasm/joy**un·bowed** /ˌʌnˈbaʊd/ *adj, literary* : not defeated or willing to admit defeat • He was *unbowed* by failure.**un·break·able** /ˌʌnˈbreɪkəbəl/ *adj* : not able to be broken : not breakable • The two of them had an *unbreakable* bond of friendship. • The plastic is virtually *unbreakable*.**un·bridge·able** /ˌʌnˈbrɪdʒəbəl/ *adj* — used to say that two people, groups, or things are too widely separated or different from each other to ever be brought together, made to agree, etc. • He says that there is an *unbridgeable* gulf/gap between the rich and the poor in this country.**un·bri·dled** /ˌʌnˈbraɪdlɪd/ *adj, formal + literary* : not controlled or limited : done, felt, or expressed in a free and uncontrolled way • The crowd was swept with *unbridled* enthusiasm. • (*chiefly US*) They live in an area of *unbridled* development. [=an area where many houses and other buildings are being built without much control by the government]**un·bro·ken** /ˌʌnˈbrəʊkən/ *adj*1 : not damaged or broken • *unbroken* eggs • His spirit remains *unbroken*.2 : not interrupted : CONTINUOUS • an *unbroken* row of trees • eight hours of *unbroken* sleep • The band has had an *unbroken* string of hits.3 *of a record* : not beaten or improved upon : not surpassed • The Olympic record he set is still *unbroken*.**un·buck·le** /ˌʌnˈbʌkəl/ *verb* **-buck·les; -buck·led; -buck·ling** [+ *obj*] : to open the buckle of (something, such as a belt) • She *unbuckled* her seat belt.**un·bur·den** /ˌʌnˈbɜːdn/ *verb* **-dens; -dened; -den·ing** [+ *obj*] : to take a problem or burden away from (someone or something) • They tried to *unburden* her of her worries/troubles. [=tried to take away her worries/troubles]**unburden yourself** : to talk about something that is causing you to feel worried, guilty, etc. • When she asked what was bothering him, he welcomed the opportunity to *unburden* himself.– **un·bur·dened** /ˌʌnˈbɜːnd/ *adj* • She felt *unburdened* [=not burdened] by the expectations of other people. • The book is *unburdened* by academic language and statistics.**un·but·ton** /ˌʌnˈbʌtn/ *verb* **-tons; -toned; -ton·ing** [+ *obj*] : to open the buttons of (something) • He *unbuttoned* his coat/shirt.**un·called·for** /ˌʌnˈkɔːldfɔː/ *adj* : not necessary or appropriate : not called for • His jealousy is completely *uncalled-for*. • *uncalled-for* insults**un·can·ny** /ˌʌnˈkæni/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : strange or unusual in a way that is surprising or difficult to understand • She had an *uncanny* resemblance to someone I had seen before. • She has an *uncanny* sense of direction. • an *uncanny* ability to predict the weather– **un·can·ni·ly** /ˌʌnˈkænli/ *adv* • He looks *uncannily* like a friend of mine. • an *uncannily* realistic painting**un·cared for** /ˌʌnˈkeəd-/ *adj* : not given attention or care • The garden looked *uncared for*. [=neglected]**un·car·ing** /ˌʌnˈkeɪɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not feeling or showing concern for someone or something • She has an *un-**caring* attitude toward her schoolwork. • He is a cold and *un-**caring* man.**un·ceas·ing** /ˌʌnˈsiːɪŋ/ *adj* : never stopping : not ceasing • *unceasing* efforts • *unceasing* vigilance– **un·ceas·ing·ly** /ˌʌnˈsiːɪŋli/ *adv* • They worked *unceasingly* [=endlessly] for peace.**un·cen·sored** /ˌʌnˈsensəd/ *adj* : expressed openly without removal of words or opinions that may shock or offend people : not censored • The book reveals his *uncensored* thoughts about his political rivals. • *uncensored* news reports**un·cer·e·mo·ni·ous** /ˌʌnˌserəˈmouniəs/ *adj* : happening or done very suddenly and quickly with no effort to be careful or polite • His *unceremonious* dismissal by the new boss surprised everybody.– **un·cer·e·mo·ni·ous·ly** *adv* • The team *unceremoniously* dumped him at the end of the season.**un·cer·tain** /ˌʌnˈsɜːtn/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not certain: such as **a** : not exactly known or decided : not definite or fixed • an *uncertain* quantity • The time of departure is still *uncertain*. **b** : not sure : having some doubt about something • We are still *uncertain* of the truth. • She remains *uncertain* about her plans. • I'm *uncertain* about how to respond. **c** : not definitely known • an *uncertain* claim • The cause of the fire is *uncertain*. **d** : likely to change : not constant or dependable • *uncertain* weather • He has an *uncertain* temper. • They face a financially *uncertain* future.**in no uncertain terms** : in a very clear and direct way • My mother told me *in no uncertain terms* to never say that word again!– **un·cer·tain·ly** *adv* • “Should I leave?” I asked *uncertainly*. • A drunk guy staggered *uncertainly* along the street.**un·cer·tain·ty** /ˌʌnˈsɜːnti/ *noun, pl -ties*1 [*noncount*] : the quality or state of being uncertain : DOUBT • There is some *uncertainty* about the company's future. • He accepted the position without hesitation or *uncertainty*.2 [*count*] : something that is doubtful or unknown : something that is uncertain — usually plural • Life is full of *uncertainties*.**un·chal·lenged** /ˌʌnˈtʃæləndʒd/ *adj* : not questioned or doubted : not challenged • His remark went *unchallenged* by the interviewer. • She is the *unchallenged* authority in the field.**un·change·able** /ˌʌnˈtʃeɪndʒəbəl/ *adj* : not able to change or be changed • The past is *unchangeable*. • an *unchangeable* deadline**un·changed** /ˌʌnˈtʃeɪndʒd/ *adj* : not changed • Their plans remain *unchanged*. • My old neighborhood is still pretty much *unchanged*.**un·chang·ing** /ˌʌnˈtʃeɪndʒɪŋ/ *adj* : not changing : staying the same • an *unchanging* truth • *unchanging* traditions**un·char·ac·ter·is·tic** /ˌʌnˌkerəktəˈrɪstɪk/ *adj* : not typical or usual : not characteristic • It was an *uncharacteristic* outburst of temper. • Her *uncharacteristic* silence bothered me.– **un·char·ac·ter·is·ti·cal·ly** /ˌʌnˌkerəktəˈrɪstɪkli/ *adv* • She was *uncharacteristically* irritable/quiet/tense.**un·char·i·ta·ble** /ˌʌnˈtʃerətəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : very harsh in judging others : not charitable • an *uncharitable* critic • *uncharitable* comments– **un·char·i·ta·bly** /ˌʌnˈtʃerətəbli/ *adv* • an *uncharitably* harsh review**un·chart·ed** /ˌʌnˈtʃɑːtəd/ *adj* : not recorded or located on a map, chart, or plan • an *uncharted* island — often used figuratively • The discussion moved into *uncharted* territory/waters. [=moved into a new and unknown area]**un·checked** /ˌʌnˈtʃekt/ *adj* : not stopped, slowed, or controlled : not checked • *unchecked* power • The disease is often fatal if left *unchecked*. • The rabbit population has grown/gone *unchecked*.**un·civ·il** /ˌʌnˈsɪvəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : rude or impolite • *uncivil* behavior • *uncivil* remarks– **un·civ·il·ly** *adv***un·civ·i·lized** also *Brit un·civ·i·lised* /ˌʌnˈsɪvəˌlaɪzd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not civilized: such as **a** : not polite, reasonable, or respectful • *uncivilized* [=rude] behavior • He was awakened at an *uncivilized* hour. **b** : showing no concern for the well-being of people or for the proper way to behave toward people • They believe that capital punishment is *uncivilized*. **c old-fashioned** : not having the kinds of social systems, technologies, etc., that are seen in most modern societies • *uncivilized* [=primitive] cultures**un·claimed** /ˌʌnˈkleɪmd/ *adj* : not asked for or taken by an

owner : not claimed • *unclaimed* property

un-clas-si-fied /ˌʌnˈklæsəfaɪd/ *adj* : not kept secret by the government • *unclassified* documents • *unclassified* information

un-cle /ˈʌŋkəl/ *noun, pl un-cles*

1 [count] : the brother of your father or mother or the husband of your aunt • I have three *uncles* and two aunts. • My *Uncle* David is visiting next week.

2 *US, informal* — used as a word that you say when you are being hurt in a fight to show that you admit being defeated and do not want to continue fighting • He was forced to *cry/say uncle*. [=forced to surrender]

and *Bob's your uncle* see BOB

un-clean /ˌʌnˈkliːn/ *adj*

1 : not clean : dirty • Many of their health problems were caused by *unclean* living conditions.

2 : not innocent and good : morally impure • *unclean* thoughts/desires

3 : not allowed to be used by religious law • *unclean* meat

un-clear /ˌʌnˈkliə/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : difficult to understand • Their directions were *unclear*. • The cause of the disease remains *unclear*.

2 : confused or uncertain about something — often + *about* • I'm a little *unclear about* what to do. • She was *unclear about* whether she would attend.

un-clench /ˌʌnˈklɛnʃ/ *verb* -clench-es; -clenched; -clench-ing : to move (something) out of a tightly closed position and make it less tense [+ *obj*] He *unclenched* his jaw and took deep breaths. • He *unclenched* his fist. [no *obj*] I could feel my jaw *unclenching* as the pain subsided.

Un-cle Sam /ˌʌŋkəlˈsæm/ *noun* [noncount] *informal* : the American government, nation, or people pictured or thought of as a person • *Uncle Sam* wants you to join the Army!

Uncle Tom /ˌʌŋkəlˈtɑːm/ *noun, pl ~ Toms* [count] *disapproving* : a black person who is eager to win the approval of white people and willing to cooperate with them

un-clog /ˌʌnˈklɔːg/ *verb* -clogs; -clogged; -clog-ging [+ *obj*] : to open (something) so things can pass or flow through • He *unclogged* the drain/sink/toilet. • He had a procedure done to *unclog* his arteries. • finding ways to *unclog* busy roads

un-clothed /ˌʌnˈkloʊðd/ *adj, formal* : not wearing clothes : *NAKED* • Police found the victim's *unclothed* body in the woods.

un-clut-tered /ˌʌnˈklʌtəd/ *adj* : not filled or covered with unnecessary things : not cluttered • Her desk is always neat and *uncluttered*.

un-coil /ˌʌnˈkoɪəl/ *verb* -coils; -coiled; -coil-ing : to make (something that is curled or coiled) straight [+ *obj*] He *uncoiled* the rope. [no *obj*] The spring began to *uncoil*.

un-com-fort-able /ˌʌnˈkʌmfətəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 **a** : causing a feeling of physical discomfort • a very *uncomfortable* chair **b** : feeling physical discomfort • You look *uncomfortable* in that chair. Would you like to sit here instead?

2 **a** : causing a feeling of being embarrassed or uneasy • The silence went on so long that it became very *uncomfortable*. • We were in the *uncomfortable* position of asking for money. **b** : feeling embarrassed or uneasy • I was *uncomfortable* about talking to them. • She's *uncomfortable* being in the spotlight.

— **un-com-fort-ably** /ˌʌnˈkʌmfətəbli/ *adv* • The room was *uncomfortably* hot. • They came *uncomfortably* close to having an accident.

un-com-mit-ted /ˌʌnkəˈmɪtəd/ *adj* : not yet supporting a particular person, belief, etc. : not committed • *uncommitted* voters

un-com-mon /ˌʌnˈkɑːmən/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : not often found, seen, or experienced : *UNUSUAL* • It is not *uncommon* for people to become depressed after they retire. • *uncommon* plants/birds/animals

2 : not ordinary : remarkable or exceptional • an athlete with *uncommon* ability • a soldier of *uncommon* courage • She is an *uncommon* woman.

— **un-com-mon-ly** *adv* • He is *uncommonly* smart. • an *uncommonly* cold winter • an *uncommonly* good book

un-com-mu-ni-ca-tive /ˌʌnkəˈmjuːnəkətɪv, ˌʌnkəˈmjuːnəkətɪv/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not tending or liking to talk or give out information • a silent, *uncommunicative* [=reserved] person • They have been *uncommunicative* with us about their plans. [=they have not told us about their plans]

un-com-pet-i-tive /ˌʌnkəmˈpetətɪv/ *adj* : not good enough to compete successfully with others : not competitive • As long as the school system keeps offering *uncompetitive* wages, people looking for jobs will apply elsewhere.

un-com-plain-ing /ˌʌnkəmˈpleɪnɪŋ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *approving* : accepting, doing, or dealing with something difficult or unpleasant without complaining • an *uncomplaining* worker

— **un-com-plain-ing-ly** /ˌʌnkəmˈpleɪnɪŋli/ *adv* • She worked *uncomplainingly* in very difficult conditions.

un-com-plet-ed /ˌʌnkəmˈpli:təd/ *adj* : not finished : not completed • an *uncompleted* [=unfinished] building/memoir/play

un-com-pli-cat-ed /ˌʌnˈkɑːmpləˌkeɪtəd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : easy to understand, do, or use : not complicated • The plot was *uncomplicated* and easy to follow. • *uncomplicated* machinery • He's an *uncomplicated*, straightforward person.

un-com-pli-men-ta-ry /ˌʌnˈkɑːmpləˈmentəri/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : expressing a low opinion of someone or something : not complimentary • an *uncomplimentary* comment/remark

un-com-pre-hend-ing /ˌʌnˈkɑːmprɪˈhɛndɪŋ/ *adj* : not understanding what is happening, being referred to, etc. • They were *uncomprehending* of what was going on. : showing a lack of understanding or knowledge • He gave me an *uncomprehending* look when I mentioned her name.

— **un-com-pre-hend-ing-ly** *adv* • He looked at me *uncomprehendingly*.

un-com-pro-mis-ing /ˌʌnˈkɑːmprəˌmaɪzɪŋ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not willing to change a decision, opinion, method, etc. : not willing to make or accept a compromise • They were *uncompromising* in their demands. • *uncompromising* standards of excellence

— **un-com-pro-mis-ing-ly** *adv*

un-con-cern /ˌʌnkənˈsɜːn/ *noun* [noncount] : lack of care about or interest in something : *INDIFFERENCE* • He has shown a surprising *unconcern* for his own safety.

un-con-cerned /ˌʌnkənˈsænd/ *adj* : not worried or upset : not concerned • She's *unconcerned* about/with that issue. • The economy seems to be slowing down, but many investors remain *unconcerned*.

— **un-con-cern-ed-ly** /ˌʌnkənˈsənədli/ *adv*

un-con-di-tion-al /ˌʌnkənˈdɪʃənəl/ *adj* : not limited in any way : complete and absolute • They demanded an *unconditional* surrender. • He had an *unconditional* loyalty to his family. • their *unconditional* love of their children

— **un-con-di-tion-al-ly** *adv* • He loved her *unconditionally*.

un-con-firmed /ˌʌnkənˈfɜːmd/ *adj* : not supported by evidence : not confirmed • an *unconfirmed* rumor/report

un-con-ge-nial /ˌʌnkənˈdʒiːniəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *formal*

1 : not pleasant or enjoyable • an *uncongenial* task

2 : not proper or suited to a particular situation, person, etc. • He was being asked to support a policy that was *uncongenial* to him.

un-con-nect-ed /ˌʌnkəˈnektəd/ *adj* : not related or connected • The question is completely *unconnected* with/to the discussion. • two *unconnected* murders • The computer is *unconnected* to the network. • The movie is about four seemingly *unconnected* people.

un-con-quer-able /ˌʌnˈkɑːŋkərəbəl/ *adj*

1 : not able to be conquered or defeated • She has an *unconquerable* [=indomitable] spirit/will.

2 : not able to be dealt with successfully • seemingly *unconquerable* [=insurmountable] difficulties/problems

un-con-scio-na-ble /ˌʌnˈkɑːnʃənəbəl/ *adj, formal*

1 : extremely bad, unfair, or wrong • *unconscionable* cruelty

2 : going far beyond what is usual or proper • They have had to endure *unconscionable* delays.

— **un-con-scio-na-bly** /ˌʌnˈkɑːnʃənəbli/ *adv* • an *unconscionably* cruel nature • an *unconscionably* long delay

un-con-scious /ˌʌnˈkɑːnʃəs/ *adj* : not conscious: such as **a** : not awake especially because of an injury, drug, etc. • He was knocked *unconscious* by a fall. • She was *unconscious* for three days after the accident. **b** : not aware of something — usually + *of* • He is *unconscious of* his mistake. • She was *unconscious of* being watched. **c** : not intended or planned : not consciously done • an *unconscious* mistake • an *unconscious* bias

— **un-con-scious-ly** *adv* • People constantly make decisions, consciously or *unconsciously*. — **un-con-scious-**

ness *noun* [noncount] • He drifted into *unconsciousness*.

unconscious *noun* [noncount] : the part of the mind that a person is not aware of but that is often a powerful force in controlling behavior — compare SUBCONSCIOUS

un-con-sid-ered /ˌʌŋkən'sɪdəd/ *adj*

1 *formal* : not formed from careful thought • *unconsidered* opinions/remarks

2 : not thought about • a previously *unconsidered* strategy • *unconsidered* trifles

un-con-sti-tu-tion-al /ˌʌŋkɑːnstə'tuːʃən/, ˌʌŋkɒnstə'tjuːʃən/ *adj* : not allowed by the constitution of a country or government : not constitutional • an *unconstitutional* infringement of rights • The law may be *unconstitutional*.

— **un-con-sti-tu-tion-al-i-ty** /ˌʌŋkɑːnstə'tuːʃənəˈlæti, Brit ˌʌŋkɒnstə'tjuːʃənəˈlæti/ *noun* [noncount] — **un-con-sti-tu-tion-al-ly** *adv*

un-con-test-ed /ˌʌŋkən'testəd/ *adj* : not having or involving disagreement, argument, or opposition • an *uncontested* divorce [=a divorce which both people agree to] • The Fifth Congressional District seat was *uncontested*. [=only one person ran in the election for the Fifth Congressional District seat] • She ran *uncontested* for class treasurer.

un-con-trol-la-ble /ˌʌŋkən'trɒləbəl/ *adj* : not able to be controlled • *uncontrollable* anger • an *uncontrollable* urge • *uncontrollable* children

— **un-con-trol-la-bly** /ˌʌŋkən'trɒləbli/ *adv* • He was laughing *uncontrollably*.

un-con-trolled /ˌʌŋkən'trɒld/ *adj* : happening or done without being stopped, slowed, or controlled • the government's *uncontrolled* spending • *uncontrolled* bleeding • *uncontrolled* growth

un-con-ven-tion-al /ˌʌŋkən'venʃənəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : very different from the things that are used or accepted by most people : not traditional or usual : not conventional • an *unconventional* wardrobe • Her lifestyle is rather *unconventional*. • In his lectures, he encourages *unconventional* thinking. [=he encourages people to think in new and different ways]

— **un-con-ven-tion-al-i-ty** /ˌʌŋkən'venʃənəˈlæti/ *noun* [noncount] — **un-con-ven-tion-al-ly** *adv* • The class was encouraged to think *unconventionally*.

un-con-vinced /ˌʌŋkən'vɪnst/ *adj*, *not used before a noun* [more ~; most ~] : not completely sure or certain about something : not convinced • The jury was *unconvinced* that the defendant was guilty.

un-con-vinc-ing /ˌʌŋkən'vɪnsɪŋ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not able to make you believe that something is true, real, or acceptable : not convincing • His arguments for changing the rules were *unconvincing*. • a novel with *unconvincing* characters

un-cooked /ˌʌŋ'kʊkt/ *adj* : not cooked : RAW • *uncooked* meat

un-cool /ˌʌŋ'kuːl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *informal*

1 : not popular or fashionable • Her parents' car is totally *uncool*. • *uncool* music

2 : not respectable or acceptable • It's *uncool* to lie to your friends.

un-co-op-er-a-tive /ˌʌŋkəu'ɑːprətɪv/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not willing to do what someone wants or asks for : not cooperative • *uncooperative* children • an *uncooperative* witness [=a witness who will not talk to the police] • We planned a picnic, but the weather was *uncooperative*. [=the weather was too bad for us to have a picnic]

un-co-or-di-nat-ed /ˌʌŋkəu'ɒdəˌnertəd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : not able to move different parts of your body together well or easily • I'm too *uncoordinated* to be a good dancer.

2 : not well organized : not working together effectively • Their efforts to manage the event were *uncoordinated*.

un-cork /ˌʌŋ'kɔːk/ *verb* -corks; -corked; -cork-ing [+ *obj*]

1 : to remove a cork from (a bottle) • *uncork* a bottle of wine

2 *informal* : to allow (something that was contained or controlled) to come out, escape, etc. • The incident *uncorked* years of pent-up anger and frustration.

un-cor-rect-ed /ˌʌŋkə'rektəd/ *adj* : having errors or flaws • an *uncorrected* manuscript : not corrected • The problem remains *uncorrected*.

un-cor-rob-o-rat-ed /ˌʌŋkə'rɑːbəˌreɪtəd/ *adj* : not supported or proved by evidence • *uncorroborated* evidence/testimony

un-count-able /ˌʌŋ'kaʊntəbəl/ *adj* : too many to be counted : not countable • an *uncountable* number of insects

un-count-ed /ˌʌŋ'kaʊntəd/ *adj*

1 : not counted • Their votes went *uncounted*.

2 : too many to be counted • They spent *uncounted* hours on the project.

un-cou-ple /ˌʌŋ'kʌpəl/ *verb* -cou-ples; -cou-pled; -cou-pling [+ *obj*] : to separate or disconnect (something) from something else • They *uncoupled* the railroad cars.

un-couth /ˌʌŋ'kuːθ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : behaving in a rude way : not polite or socially acceptable • People thought he was *uncouth* and uncivilized. • *uncouth* language/behavior

un-cov-er /ˌʌŋ'kʌvə/ *verb* -ers; -ered; -er-ing [+ *obj*]

1 : to remove a cover from (something) • *Uncover* the pot.

2 : to find or become aware of (something that was hidden or secret) • Police *uncovered* a criminal plot. • We are still trying to *uncover* (the truth about) what happened.

3 : to allow (something) to be seen by removing a covering • Archaeologists *uncovered* the ruins of an ancient city.

— **un-cov-ered** /ˌʌŋ'kʌvəd/ *adj* • She left the pot *uncovered* so the soup could cool.

un-cred-it-ed /ˌʌŋ'kreditəd/ *adj* : not named or listed as one of the people who created or performed in something (such as a movie) • He was an *uncredited* actor in the movie. • She had a small, *uncredited* role.

un-crit-i-cal /ˌʌŋ'krɪtɪkəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *usually disapproving* : not expressing or willing to express appropriate criticism or disapproval : not critical • The senator's *uncritical* support for the measure reflects his poor judgment. • an *uncritical* newspaper article

— **un-crit-i-cal-ly** /ˌʌŋ'krɪtɪkli/ *adv*

un-cross /ˌʌŋ'krɔːs/ *verb* -cross-es; -crossed; -cross-ing [+ *obj*] : to move one arm, leg, etc., so that it is no longer over the other • She *uncrossed* her legs.

un-crowd-ed /ˌʌŋ'kraʊdəd/ *adj* : not containing a lot of people : not crowded • an *uncrowded* beach • The train was *uncrowded*.

un-crown-ed /ˌʌŋ'kraʊnd/ *adj* : not having or wearing a crown : not officially recognized as a king or queen • an *uncrowned* king — often used figuratively to describe someone who is considered the best or most successful person in a particular field or group • He is the *uncrowned* king of comedy.

unc-tu-ous /ˌʌŋktʃəwəs/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *formal + disapproving* — used to describe someone who speaks and behaves in a way that is meant to seem friendly and polite but that is unpleasant because it is obviously not sincere • an *unctuous* hostess

— **unc-tu-ous-ly** *adv* — **unc-tu-ous-ness** *noun* [non-count]

un-cul-ti-vat-ed /ˌʌŋ'kʌltəˌveɪtəd/ *adj* : not prepared or used for growing crops or plants : not cultivated • *uncultivated* land

un-cul-tured /ˌʌŋ'kʌltʃəd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not having or showing good education, tastes, and manners • *uncultured* people

un-curl /ˌʌŋ'kɜːl/ *verb* -curls; -curled; -curl-ing : to make (something that is curled or coiled) straight [+ *obj*] *Uncurl* your toes. [no *obj*] The snake *uncurled* and slithered off.

un-cut /ˌʌŋ'kʌt/ *adj* : not cut: such as **a** : allowed to continue growing • an *uncut* forest/lawn • His hair was *uncut* but neat. **b** : not cut into a different shape • a raw, *uncut* diamond **c** : not shortened or edited • the *uncut* version of the film

un-dam-aged /ˌʌŋ'dæmɪdʒd/ *adj* : not harmed or damaged in any way • The stolen painting was returned *undamaged*.

un-dat-ed /ˌʌŋ'deɪtəd/ *adj* : not having a date written or printed on it • *undated* letters/documents/photos

un-daunt-ed /ˌʌŋ'daʊntəd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not afraid to continue doing something or trying to do something even though there are problems, dangers, etc. • The firefighters were *undaunted* by the dangerous conditions they faced. • *Undaunted*, they continued on their journey. • *undaunted* firefighters

— **un-daunt-ed-ly** *adv*

un-de-cid-ed /ˌʌŋdɪ'saɪdəd/ *adj*

1 : not having made a decision • *undecided* voters — often + *about* • She was *undecided about* what to do.

2 : not having an answer or result : not yet settled or resolved • The question is still *undecided*. • Much remains *undecided* about his future.

un-de-clared /ˌʌndɪˈkleəd/ *adj* : not stated or decided in an official way : not declared • The government has been waging an *undeclared* war against them for decades. • an *undeclared* candidate • a college student with an *undeclared* major • *undeclared* income [=income not reported on a tax form]

un-dec-o-rat-ed /ˌʌnˈdekəˌreɪtəd/ *adj* : not having decorations • an *undecorated* cake/wall

un-de-feat-ed /ˌʌndɪˈfi:təd/ *adj* : not having or including any losses or defeats • They were *undefeated* in their first nine games. [=they won their first nine games] • an *undefeated* team/season

un-de-fend-ed /ˌʌndɪˈfendəd/ *adj* : not protected or defended • There are hundreds of miles of *undefended* border between the two countries. • She scored a point when the goal was left *undefended*.

un-de-fined /ˌʌndɪˈfaɪnd/ *adj* : not shown or described clearly • The rules are still largely *undefined*. • the department's *undefined* roles/powers • an *undefined* amount of money

un-de-mand-ing /ˌʌndɪˈmændɪŋ, Brit ˌʌndɪˈmaːndɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not demanding: such as **a** : not requiring much time, attention, or effort • an *undemanding* job **b** of a person : not expecting much time, attention, effort, etc., from other people : not difficult to satisfy • He is an enjoyable, *undemanding* guest.

un-dem-o-crat-ic /ˌʌnˌdeməˈkrætɪk/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not agreeing with democratic practices or ideals : not democratic • an *undemocratic* government • The proposed law is fundamentally *undemocratic*.

un-de-mon-stra-tive /ˌʌndɪˈmɑːnstrətɪv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not showing emotion or feelings in a free and open way : not demonstrative • His father was distant and *undemonstrative*.

un-de-ni-able /ˌʌndɪˈnajəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : clearly true : impossible to deny • an *undeniable* fact • The band's popularity is *undeniable*.

— **un-de-ni-ably** /ˌʌndɪˈnajəbli/ *adv* • She is *undeniably* [=certainly] the best tennis player of her time.

un-de-pend-able /ˌʌndɪˈpendəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not able to be trusted or relied on : not dependable • an *undependable* car/employee

¹un-der /ˈʌndə/ *prep*

1 : in or to a lower place than (something) : below or beneath (something) : UNDERNEATH • They couldn't climb over the wall, so they dug a hole *under* it. • Draw a line *under* each word you don't know. • We sat *under* a tree and rested a while. • I'm wearing a sweater *under* my jacket. • The ball rolled *under* the car. • He had a mechanic check *under* the hood (of the car). • How long can you hold your breath *under* water? • There were 12 of us living *under one roof*. [=in one place]

2 : guided or managed by (a person or group) • The cafe is *under* new management. • The army captured three forts while *under* the general's command. • She has 12 employees (working) *under* her.

3 : controlled or affected by (something) • He has been *under* a lot of pressure/stress at work lately. • The roof collapsed *under* the weight of the snow. [=the weight of the snow on the roof caused it to collapse] • The work was done *under* the direction/guidance/supervision of an architect. [=an architect directed/guided/supervised the work] • She was not *under* a doctor's care [=she did not have a doctor] at the time of the accident. • Driving while *under* the influence of alcohol [=driving while drunk] is dangerous and illegal. • You will be *under* anesthesia during the operation. • I can't work *under* these conditions! • I would never, *under* any circumstances, agree to do such a thing. • The company was *under* no obligation [=was not obligated/required] to release the information. • I was *under the impression* [=I thought] that admission was free.

4 : in a particular state or condition : affected by a particular process • The police put her *under arrest* [=the police arrested her] • The house is *under construction*. [=is now being built] • The incident is currently *under investigation*. [=is being investigated] • His suggestion is still *under discussion/consideration/review* [=is still being discussed/considered/reviewed] by the committee.

5 : according to (something) • *Under* the terms of the lease, rent will be due on the first of each month. • They have fulfilled all their obligations *under* the treaty.

6 : within the group that has (a particular title or label) • The

purchase is listed *under* “debts.” • Many of these foods would come *under* the heading (of) “delicacies” in certain parts of the world.

7 — used to say that a particular name is used to indicate something • The table is reserved *under* my last name.

8 : less or lower than (a certain age, amount of money, etc.) • All the children in the class are *under* the age of 14. • We arrived in *under* an hour. • You get all three items for *under* \$10.

9 : hidden below (an outward appearance) • *Under* that rough exterior, he is a kind and gentle man.

²under *adv*

1 a : in or into a position that is below or beneath something • Pull the bed sheets tight then fold the ends *under*. • He turned *under* his shirt's collar.; *especially* : in a position that is below the surface of water • The whale surfaced briefly then dove *under* again. **b** : in a forward direction that passes below something • The bridge was too low for the ship to sail *under*.

2 : less than an expected or stated number or amount • A score of 60 is needed to pass; anything *under* is failing. • Children aged five *and under* [=children who are five years old and younger] may enter the park for free. • Most of the restaurant's entrees are \$10 *or under*. [=they cost \$10 or less than \$10]

3 : into an unconscious state • They had to put me *under* for surgery.

go under see **¹GO**

under- *prefix*

1 : below • *undercurrent* • *underside* • *underlying* • *undershirt*

2 : less than an expected or correct number or amount • *underappreciated* • *underpaid* • *underestimate* • *underage* • *undercharge* • *underachieve* • *undercook* • *underdeveloped* • *underdressed*

un-der-achiev-er /ˌʌndəˈtʃiːvə/ *noun*, *pl* -ers [*count*] : someone (such as a student or athlete) who does not perform as well or work as hard as he or she can — opposite OVERACHIEVER

— **un-der-achieve** /ˌʌndəˈtʃiːv/ *verb* -achieves; -achieved; -achiev-ing [*no obj*] • Many students *underachieve* during their senior year. — **un-der-achievement** /ˌʌndəˈtʃiːv/ *noun* [*noncount*]

un-der-ac-tive /ˌʌndəˈæktɪv/ *adj* : not active enough • an *underactive* thyroid

un-der-age /ˌʌndəˈeɪdʒ/ *adj* : too young to do something legally • They were not allowed into the club because they were *underage*. • *underage* drinking • an *underage* driver — opposite OVERAGE

un-der-ap-pre-ci-at-ed /ˌʌndəˈrəˌpriːʃiːtəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not appreciated or valued enough • Her work is *underappreciated* by the critics. • an *underappreciated* talent

¹un-der-arm /ˈʌndəˈɑːm/ *adj*

1 *always used before a noun* : placed on or along the armpit • *underarm* deodorant • an *underarm* seam

2 *Brit* : **¹UNDERHAND 1** • an *underarm* throw

²un-der-arm /ˌʌndəˈɑːm/ *adv*, *Brit* : **²UNDERHAND** • He threw the ball *underarm*.

³un-der-arm /ˈʌndəˈɑːm/ *noun*, *pl* -arms [*count*] : ARMPIT

un-der-bel-ly /ˈʌndəˈbeli/ *noun*, *pl* -lies

1 [*count*] : the bottom part of an object or an animal's body — usually singular • the *underbelly* of an airplane • a whale's *underbelly*

2 [*singular*] : an area that is easy to attack or criticize • the army's *underbelly* • They exposed the *underbelly* of the nation's economic policy.

3 [*singular*] : a part of society, an organization, etc., that is hidden and usually unpleasant • the sordid *underbelly* of city life • the industry's dark *underbelly*

un-der-bid /ˌʌndəˈbɪd/ *verb* -bids; -bid; -bid-ding [+ *obj*] : to offer to do work for less money than (another person or group) : to bid less than (someone else) • We were *underbid* by another company [=another company offered to do a job for less money than we did] and we lost the contract.

un-der-brush /ˌʌndəˈbrʌʃ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly* US : plants, bushes, and small trees growing under larger trees in a forest : UNDERGROWTH • We made our way through the thick *underbrush*.

un-der-car-riage /ˌʌndəˈkerɪdʒ/ *noun*, *pl* -riages [*count*]

1 *chiefly* US : the supporting structures of a car, truck, etc.

2 : LANDING GEAR • There was a problem with the plane's *undercarriage*.

un-der-charge /ˌʌndəˈtʃɑːdʒ/ *verb* -charges; -charged;



-charg-ing [+ *obj*] : to charge (someone) too little for something : to ask (someone) to pay too little money for something • They *undercharged* him for the book by \$5. — opposite OVERCHARGE

un·der·class /ˈʌndəˌklæs, Brit ˈʌndəˌklɑːs/ *noun*, *pl* **-class-es** [count] : a social class made up of people who are very poor and have very little power or chance to improve their lives : the lowest social class — usually singular • the suffering of the *underclass*

un·der·class·man /ˈʌndəˌklæsmən, Brit ˈʌndəˌklɑːsmən/ *noun*, *pl* **-men** /-mən/ [count] *US* : a student in the first or second year of high school or college — compare UPPER-CLASSMAN

un·der·clothes /ˈʌndəˌklouz/ or **un·der·cloth·ing** /ˈʌndəˌklouðɪŋ/ *noun* [*plural*] *formal* : UNDERWEAR

un·der·coat /ˈʌndəˌkout/ *noun*, *pl* **-coats** [count] : a coat of paint that is put on a surface to prepare it for another coat of paint

un·der·cook /ˈʌndəˌkuk/ *verb* **-cooks; -cooked; -cook-ing** [+ *obj*] : to not cook (food) enough — usually used as (*be*) *undercooked* • The chicken was *undercooked*. [=underdone] — opposite OVERCOOK

un·der·cov·er /ˈʌndəˌkʌvə/ *adj* : done or working in a secret way in order to catch criminals or collect information • an *undercover* investigation • *undercover* officers/agents — **undercover** *adv* • He went *undercover* as a drug dealer. • The agent has worked *undercover* in several countries.

un·der·cur·rent /ˈʌndəˌkʌrənt/ *noun*, *pl* **-rents** [count] 1 : a flow of water that moves below the surface of the ocean or a river • You could be pulled under water by the dangerous *undercurrents*.

2 : a hidden feeling or tendency that is usually different from the one that is easy to see or understand — usually + *of* • Despite the losing streak, there is an *undercurrent* of hope within the team. • *undercurrents* of resentment

un·der·cut /ˈʌndəˌkat/ *verb* **-cuts; -cut; -cut·ting** [+ *obj*] 1 : to offer to sell things or work for a lower cost than (another person or company) • They *undercut* the competing store by 10 percent.

2 : to make (something) weaker or less effective : UNDERMINE • a law that *undercuts* the Constitution • Her behavior *undercuts* her own credibility.

un·der·de·vel·oped /ˈʌndəˌdrɪˌveləpt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : not developed to a normal size or strength • The baby was born with *underdeveloped* lungs.

2 *of a country, society, etc.* : having many poor people and few industries • *underdeveloped* nations

un·der·dog /ˈʌndəˌdɔːg/ *noun*, *pl* **-dogs** [count]

1 : a person, team, etc., that is expected to lose a contest or battle • I always root for the *underdog* instead of the favorite.

2 : a less powerful person or thing that struggles against a more powerful person or thing (such as a corporation) • As a lawyer, she consistently represented the *underdog*.

un·der·done /ˈʌndəˌdʌn/ *adj* : not cooked enough • The chicken was *underdone*. [=undercooked] ; not cooked completely • She likes her steak *underdone*. [=rare] — compare WELL-DONE

un·der·dress /ˈʌndəˌdres/ *verb* **-dress-es; -dressed; -dress-ing** [*no obj*] : to dress in clothes that are too informal or not warm enough for an occasion • I don't want to *underdress* for the party. — opposite OVERDRESS

— **underdressed** *adj* • They were *underdressed* for the wedding. • I was *underdressed* for the weather.

un·der·em·ployed /ˈʌndəˌrɪmˈplɔɪd/ *adj* : having a job that does not use your skills • *underemployed* college graduates

— **un·der·em·ploy·ment** /ˈʌndəˌrɪmˈplɔɪmənt/ *noun* [*non-count*]

un·der·es·ti·mate /ˈʌndəˌestəˌmeɪt/ *verb* **-mates; -mat-ed; -mat-ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to estimate (something) as being less than the actual size, quantity, or number • The city *underestimated* the cost of the new building. • The number of people in the crowd was *underestimated* by 5,000.

2 : to think of (someone or something) as being lower in ability, influence, or value than that person or thing actually is • Never *underestimate* the importance of a good education. • Her talent has always been *underestimated*. — opposite OVERESTIMATE

— **un·der·es·ti·mate** /ˈʌndəˌestəˌmæt/ *noun*, *pl* **-mates** [count] • an *underestimate* of the cost • That number might

be an *underestimate*. — **un·der·es·ti·ma·tion** /ˈʌndəˌestəˌmeɪʃən/ *noun*, *pl* **-tions** [count, *noncount*]

un·der·ex·pose /ˈʌndəˌɪkˈspouz/ *verb* **-pos-es; -posed; -pos-ing** [+ *obj*] : to allow too little light to fall on (film in a camera) when you are taking a photograph • The film was *underexposed* and the pictures came out too dark. • *underexposed* negatives/pictures

— **un·der·ex·po·sure** /ˈʌndəˌɪkˈspouzə/ *noun* [*noncount*]

un·der·fed /ˈʌndəˌfed/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not given enough food to eat • The cat looked *underfed*.

un·der·floor heating /ˈʌndəˌfloʊ-/ *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly Brit* : a heating system that is placed under the floor of a building • The kitchen was updated with *underfloor heating*.

un·der·foot /ˈʌndəˌfut/ *adv*

1 : below your feet • The ground was slippery *underfoot*. • We walked with dried leaves crunching *underfoot*.

2 : near your feet so as to make movement difficult — often used figuratively • It can be hard to clean the house with five children *underfoot*.

un·der·fund·ed /ˈʌndəˌfʌndəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not having enough money to do what is needed • The city's school system is badly *underfunded*.

un·der·gar·ment /ˈʌndəˌgɑːmənt/ *noun*, *pl* **-ments** [count] *somewhat old-fashioned* : a piece of underwear

un·der·gird /ˈʌndəˌgɜːd/ *verb* **-girds; -gird-ed; -gird-ing** [+ *obj*] *chiefly US* : to strengthen or support (something) from below — usually used figuratively • Their way of life is *undergirded* by religious faith.

un·der·go /ˈʌndəˌɡou/ *verb* **-goes; -went** /-ˈwent/; **-gone** /-ˈɡɑːn/; **-go·ing** [+ *obj*] : to experience or endure (something) • She will have to *undergo* an operation. • He *underwent* a personal transformation [=he became a different sort of person] after his heart attack.

un·der·grad /ˈʌndəˌgræd/ *noun*, *pl* **-grads** [count] *chiefly US* : UNDERGRADUATE

un·der·grad·u·ate /ˈʌndəˌgrædʒəwət/ *noun*, *pl* **-ates** [count] : a student at a college or university who has not yet earned a degree • a group of college *undergraduates* — often used before another noun • an *undergraduate* program • *undergraduate* classes

¹**un·der·ground** /ˈʌndəˌgraʊnd/ *adj*

1 : located or occurring below the surface of the earth • *underground* parking garages • an *underground* explosion — compare ABOVEGROUND, INGROUND

2 *always used before a noun* : secret and usually illegal • an *underground* deal • The drugs are supplied through an *underground* network.

3 *always used before a noun* : of, relating to, or produced in a social and artistic world that is different and separate from the main part of society • She loves the city's *underground* music scene. • *underground* newspapers/movies

²**un·der·ground** /ˈʌndəˌgraʊnd/ *adv*

1 : below the surface of the earth • The wires run *underground*. • animals that live *underground*

2 : in or into a place that is hidden or secret : out of the view of the public • They had been living *underground* as fugitives. • The political party *went underground* [=started working in secret] after the new government took power.

³**un·der·ground** /ˈʌndəˌgraʊnd/ *noun*

1 *Brit* : a system of trains that run below the ground in a large city : SUBWAY [*singular*] I've ridden on the New York subway, the Paris Metro, and the London *Underground*. [*noncount*] She commutes by *underground*.

2 *the underground* : a group of people who secretly work to oppose or overthrow a government

un·der·growth /ˈʌndəˌɡrouθ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : UNDERBRUSH

¹**un·der·hand** /ˈʌndəˌhænd/ *adj*

1 *US* : made with the hand brought forward and upward from below the shoulder • an *underhand* [= (US) *underhanded*, (*Brit*) *underarm*] throw — compare OVERHAND

2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] *chiefly Brit* : UNDERHANDED 1 • an *underhand* deal/tactic

²**underhand** *adv*, *US* : with an underhand motion • Throw the ball *underhand*.

un·der·hand·ed /ˈʌndəˌhændəd/ *adj*

1 [*more* ~; *most* ~] *chiefly US* : done in a secret and dishonest way : intended to deceive or trick someone • People resented the *underhanded* [= (*chiefly Brit*) *underhand*] way that he came to power. • *underhanded* tactics/methods

2 US : ¹UNDERHAND 1 • an *underhanded* throw

— **underhanded** *adv*, US • She threw the ball *underhanded*.

un·der·lay /ˌʌndəˈleɪ/ *noun*, *pl* -lays [count] : a layer of material that is placed under something else (such as a carpet)

un·der·lie /ˌʌndəˈlaɪ/ *verb* -lies; -lay /-ˈleɪ/; -lain /-ˈleɪn/; -ly-ing [+ *obj*]

1 : to lie or be located under (something) • A tile floor *underlies* the rug. • The river is *underlain* by limestone.

2 : to form the basis or foundation of (an idea, a process, etc.) • We discussed the principles that *underlay* their methods. • A theme of revenge *underlies* much of her writing.

un·der·line /ˌʌndəˈlaɪn/ *verb* -lines; -lined; -lin-ing [+ *obj*]

1 : to draw a line under (something) • His name was *underlined* in the book.

2 : to emphasize (something) : to show the importance of (something) • The accident *underlines* our need for better safety procedures.

un·der·ling /ˌʌndəˈlɪŋ/ *noun*, *pl* -lings [count] *disapproving* : a person of low rank who works for a more powerful person : SUBORDINATE • He takes all the credit, but most of the hard work is done by his *underlings*.

un·der·ly·ing /ˌʌndəˈlaɪɪŋ/ *adj*

1 — used to identify the idea, cause, problem, etc., that forms the basis of something • The argument relies on the *underlying* assumption that all criminals are dangerous. • an *underlying* cause of the accident • They're dealing with the symptoms but they haven't done anything about the *underlying* problem/disease.

2 : lying under or below something • the ocean and the *underlying* rock

un·der·manned /ˌʌndəˈmænd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not having enough workers : UNDERSTAFFED • *undermanned* construction crews

un·der·mine /ˌʌndəˈmaɪn/ *verb* -mines; -mined; -min-ing [+ *obj*] : to make (someone or something) weaker or less effective usually in a secret or gradual way • She tried to *undermine* my authority by complaining about me to my boss. • The events of the past year have *undermined* people's confidence in the government.

¹**un·der·neath** /ˌʌndəˈniːθ/ *prep*

1 : below or beneath (something) : UNDER • He hid the envelope *underneath* his coat. • She slipped a note *underneath* the door. • The ball rolled *underneath* the car. • He lives in the apartment *underneath* mine.

2 : on the bottom of (something) • There was gum stuck *underneath* the table.

3 : hidden below (an outward appearance) • *Underneath* her calm exterior was a nervous woman with a hot temper. • They actually had a lot in common *underneath* their obvious differences. • He might seem unkind, but *underneath it all* [=actually], he's a very caring person.

²**underneath** *adv*

1 : below or beneath • He wore a white sweater with a red shirt *underneath*. • She lifted up the rock and found ants crawling *underneath*.

2 : on the lower side • The car had rust *underneath*.

³**underneath** *noun*

the *underneath* chiefly Brit : the bottom surface of something : UNDERSIDE • The plate had a name stamped on the *underneath*.

un·der·nour·ished /ˌʌndəˈnʊrɪʃt/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not getting enough food or not getting enough healthy food for good health and growth • *undernourished* children

— **un·der·nour·ish·ment** /ˌʌndəˈnʊrɪʃmənt/ *noun* [non-count]

underpaid *past tense of UNDERPAY*

un·der·pants /ˌʌndəˈpænts/ *noun* [plural]

1 US : underwear that people wear on the lower part of their bodies

2 Brit : underpants for men and boys

un·der·pass /ˌʌndəˈpæs, Brit ˌʌndəˈpɑːs/ *noun*, *pl* -passes [count] : a place where a road or railroad crosses under another road or railroad • We stood on the bridge and looked down at the *underpass*. — compare OVERPASS

un·der·pay /ˌʌndəˈpeɪ/ *verb* -pays; -paid /-ˈpeɪd/; -pay-ing : to pay too little for something [no *obj*] She *underpaid* for her meal. [+ *obj*] He realized that he had *underpaid* the cashier. • The company *underpays* its workers. • They are *underpaid* for the work they do. • *underpaid* workers — opposite OVERPAY

— **un·der·pay·ment** *noun*, *pl* -ments [count, noncount]

un·der·per·form /ˌʌndəˈpɜːfoʊrm/ *verb* -forms; -formed; -form-ing [no *obj*] : to be less successful than expected or required • The report shows which schools are *underperforming*. • *underperforming* stocks

un·der·pin /ˌʌndəˈpɪn/ *verb* -pins; -pinned; -pin-ning [+ *obj*] : to strengthen or support (something) from below • a wall *underpinned* by metal beams — usually used figuratively • a report *underpinned* by ample research

— **un·der·pin·ning** /ˌʌndəˈpɪnɪŋ/ *noun*, *pl* -nings [count, noncount] • the moral *underpinnings* [=basis] of the administration's policies

un·der·play /ˌʌndəˈpleɪ/ *verb* -plays; -played; -play-ing [+ *obj*]

1 : to make (something) seem less important than it actually is : to give too little attention to (something) • Don't *underplay* the importance of exercise. • She often *underplays* [=downplays] her abilities. — opposite OVERPLAY

2 *disapproving* : to show too little emotion when acting in a play, movie, etc. • I thought she *underplayed* her character.

un·der·priv·i·leged /ˌʌndəˈprɪvələdʒd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : having less money, education, etc., than the other people in a society : having fewer advantages, privileges, and opportunities than most people : poor or disadvantaged • *underprivileged* students

the *underprivileged* : underprivileged people • We have to find ways to help the *underprivileged*.

un·der·rate /ˌʌndəˈreɪt/ *verb* -rates; -rat-ed; -rat-ing [+ *obj*] : to rate or value (someone or something) too low • She *underrated* her student's ability.

— **underrated** *adj* [more ~; most ~] • He is the most *underrated* player in the league. • an *underrated* restaurant

un·der·score /ˌʌndəˈskoʊ/ *verb* -scores; -scored; -scor-ing [+ *obj*]

1 : to emphasize (something) or show the importance of (something) • These failures *underscore* the difficulty of what we're attempting to do. • The President's visit *underscores* the administration's commitment to free trade.

2 : to draw a line under (something) : UNDERLINE • She *underscored* the most important points.

un·der·sea /ˌʌndəˈsiː/ *adj*, always used before a noun : found, done, or used below the surface of the sea • an *undersea* volcano • They are conducting *undersea* research. • *undersea* cables/vessels

un·der·sec·re·tary /ˌʌndəˈsɛkrəˌteri, Brit ˌʌndəˈsɛkrətri/ *noun*, *pl* -tar-ies [count] : a high-ranking government official who serves under a department secretary or other high official • the U.S. *Undersecretary* of Defense

un·der·sell /ˌʌndəˈsel/ *verb* -sells; -sold /-ˈsoʊld/; -sell-ing [+ *obj*]

1 : to sell goods for a lower price than (another person or company) • They promised to *undersell* their competitors. • We will not be *undersold*.

2 : to be sold at a lower price than (something else) • imported cars that *undersell* domestic models

un·der·shirt /ˌʌndəˈʃɜːt/ *noun* -shirts [count] US : a shirt that has no collar and sometimes no sleeves and that is worn as underwear — see color pictures on page C13; compare VEST

un·der·shorts /ˌʌndəˈfoʊts/ *noun* [plural] : underpants for men or boys

un·der·side /ˌʌndəˈsaɪd/ *noun*, *pl* -sides

1 [count] : the bottom side or part of something • the *underside* of the table

2 [singular] : a part of life, a city, etc., that is hidden and usually unpleasant • The book explores the *underside* of human nature. • Hollywood's dark *underside*

un·der·signed /ˌʌndəˈsaɪnd/ *noun*

the *undersigned* *formal* : the person whose name is signed or the people whose names are signed at the end of a document • The *undersigned* agrees to pay all debts to the bank. • We, the *undersigned*, object to the recent rulings.

un·der·sized /ˌʌndəˈsaɪzd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : smaller than the usual size • He is *undersized* for a basketball player. • the bird's *undersized* wings

un·der·staffed /ˌʌndəˈstæft, Brit ˌʌndəˈstɑːft/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not having enough workers : having a staff that is too small • The office was *understaffed*. • an *understaffed* hospital

un·der·stand /ˌʌndəˈstænd/ *verb* -stands; -stood /-ˈstʊd/; -stand-ing

1 : to know the meaning of (something, such as the words that someone is saying or a language) : COMPREHEND [+

obj] Do you *understand* English? • “Did you *understand* what he said?” “Not a word (of it).” • I can’t *understand* a word you’re saying. • I don’t *understand* these directions. • I didn’t *understand* what you told me. = I didn’t *understand* you. • If I *understand* you correctly [=if I understand what you are saying correctly], this needs to be changed. [*no obj*] I want you to stay away from her. Do you *understand*? • The work has to be finished today. *Understand*? [=do you understand what I am telling you?]

2 [+ *obj*] : to know how (something) works or happens • They *understand* local politics. • I don’t *understand* how this is supposed to work. • He doesn’t really *understand* the situation. • You should read the book in order to *understand* more about the subject. • I can’t *understand* why she would do such a thing. • She’s beginning to *understand* what’s going on. • You have to *understand* that I had no other choice. • We still don’t fully *understand* the causes of the disease. = The causes of the disease are still not fully *understood*.

3 a [+ *obj*] : to know how (someone) thinks, feels, or behaves • I *understand* [=know] him well enough to know that he won’t want to go. • She *understands* children. • At first we didn’t get along, but I think we *understand* each other now.

b : to feel sympathy for someone’s feelings or situation [+ *obj*] She had a similar experience, so she *understands* what I’m going through. • I can *understand* your/you feeling annoyed. [=I think you have good reason for feeling annoyed] [*no obj*] They will *understand* if you need some time off. • My cousin doesn’t *understand* about these things.

4 [+ *obj*] **a** : to think or believe (something) • She was *given to understand* [=she was led to believe] that the job was hers. — used to say what you believe to be true based on what you have heard, read, etc. • I *understand* that they will arrive today. • As I *understand* it, this has been a problem for several years. • I *understand* that some doctors disagree. • He *understood* that he would be paid for the work. **b** — used to say that something is agreed to or accepted and does not need to be discussed; usually used as (*be*) *understood* • It’s *understood* that more time will be needed. [=we all know/accept that more time will be needed] • He believed it *was understood* [=believed that everyone had agreed] that he would be paid for the work.

5 [+ *obj*] : to think that (something) has a particular meaning : INTERPRET • I *understood* the letter to be a refusal.

6 [+ *obj*] — used to say that a word or phrase is thought of as having been said even though it is not actually said; usually used as (*be*) *understood* • When people say “they’re engaged,” the phrase “to be married” is *understood*. [=“they’re engaged” is understood to mean “they’re engaged to be married”]

make yourself understood see ¹MAKE

understandable /ˌʌndəˈstændəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : normal and reasonable for a particular situation • an *understandable* feeling/reaction • She made an *understandable* error. • It’s perfectly *understandable* that you would feel sad.

2 : able to be understood • He can make scientific concepts *understandable* [=comprehensible] to the general public.

— **understandably** /ˌʌndəˈstændəbli/ *adv* • She was *understandably* alarmed/upset/worried.

¹**understanding** /ˌʌndəˈstændɪŋ/ *noun*

1 : the knowledge and ability to judge a particular situation or subject — usually + *of* [*singular*] He has a thorough/full *understanding of* the subject. • She has a basic/better/deep *understanding of* the process. • I hope to get/gain a clearer *understanding of* the issues involved. [*noncount*] He seems to have little *understanding of* our situation.

2 [*singular*] : an informal agreement • We have an *understanding* that whoever cooks doesn’t have to do the dishes. • After a long discussion they finally *achieved/reached an understanding*. = After a long discussion they finally *came to an understanding*. [=they finally agreed]

3 [*noncount*] : a willingness to understand people’s behavior and forgive them • She treats them with kindness and *understanding*. • a relationship based on mutual *understanding*

4 [*singular*] : your belief about something based on what you have heard, read, etc. • My *understanding* was that you were going to help. = It was my *understanding* that you were going to help. [=I thought that you were going to help]

on the understanding that — used to say that something is done, accepted, etc., because you have been told that something else will happen or is true • She agreed to do the work *on the understanding that* she would be paid now.

²**understanding** *adj* [more ~; most ~] : showing sympathy

and kindness : tolerant or sympathetic • an *understanding* husband/wife • You’ve been very *understanding* [=patient] about his recent problems.

under-state /ˌʌndəˈsteɪt/ *verb* -states; -stat-ed; -stat-ing [+ *obj*] : to say that (something) is smaller, less important, etc., than it really is • He *understated* his taxable income. • She’s trying to *understate* the issue/problem.

under-stat-ed /ˌʌndəˈsteɪtəd/ *adj* : expressed or done in a quiet or simple way • an *understated* style • an *understated* performance • *understated* elegance

under-state-ment /ˌʌndəˈsteɪtmənt/ *noun*, *pl* -ments

1 [*count*] : a statement that makes something seem smaller, less important, etc., than it really is • To say that I didn’t like the book is an *understatement*. [=I hated the book] • “I may have overreacted a little.” “That’s *the understatement of the year!*” [=you overreacted very badly]

2 [*noncount*] : the practice of describing things in a way that makes them seem smaller, less important, etc., than they really are • He has a knack for *understatement*. • a masterpiece of *understatement*

understood *past tense and past participle of UNDERSTAND*

under-study /ˌʌndəˈstʌdi/ *noun*, *pl* -stud-ies [*count*] : an actor who prepares to take the part of another actor if that actor is unable to perform

— **understudy** *verb* -studies; -stud-ied; -study-ing [*no obj*]

under-take /ˌʌndəˈteɪk/ *verb* -takes; -took /-tʊk/; -tak-en /-teɪkən/; -tak-ing [+ *obj*] *formal*

1 : to begin or attempt (something) • *undertake* a task/journey • He’s *undertaking* a thorough search. • The researchers *undertook* a series of studies.

2 : to agree or promise to do (something) — usually followed by *to* + *verb* • He *undertook to raise* his sister’s child. • The company *undertook to end* the strike.

under-tak-er /ˌʌndəˈteɪkə/ *noun*, *pl* -ers [*count*] : a person whose job is to arrange and manage funerals : FUNERAL DIRECTOR

under-tak-ing /ˌʌndəˈteɪkɪŋ/ *noun*, *pl* -ings

1 [*count*] : an important or difficult task or project • The restoration of the old theater is a huge/major/massive *undertaking*. • He advised us against such a risky/dangerous *undertaking*. • a new creative *undertaking*

2 [*noncount*] : the business of an undertaker • a career in *undertaking*

3 [*count*] *Brit, formal* : a promise or agreement to do or not do something • The newspaper *gave an undertaking* [=promised] not to disclose his identity.

under-tone /ˌʌndəˈtoun/ *noun*, *pl* -tones [*count*]

1 : a low or quiet voice • She commented in an *undertone* that the music was really not very good.

2 : a quality, meaning, etc., that is present but not clear or obvious • The play is a comedy with dark *undertones*. — often + *of* • There was an *undertone* [=hint, undercurrent] of fear throughout the city.

3 : a color that you can see in small amounts • The fabric is a rich brown color with *undertones of* red.

undertook *past tense and past participle of UNDERTAKE*

under-tow /ˌʌndəˈtu/ *noun*, *pl* -tows [*count*] : a current in the sea or ocean that is below the surface and that moves away from the shore • Don’t get caught in the *undertow*.

under-used /ˌʌndəˈjuːzd/ *adj* : not used enough : not fully used • *underused* land • Her talent is *underused*.

under-val-ue /ˌʌndəˈvælju/ *verb* -val-ues; -val-ued; -val-u-ing [+ *obj*]

1 : to place too low a value on (something) • Experts *under-valued* the stock.

2 : to fail to give enough importance to (something) • Her contribution to the project was *undervalued*.

under-wa-ter /ˌʌndəˈwa:tə/ *adj* : located, used, done, or happening below the surface of water • *underwater* caves/volcanoes • *underwater* photography • an *underwater* camera — **underwater** *adv* • swimming *underwater*

under way or under-way /ˌʌndəˈweɪ/ *adv*

1 : in or into motion • The train has had to stop briefly, but it should be *under way* again soon. • The ship finally got *under way*. [=began sailing]

2 : happening now • Preparations for their arrival are already *under way*. • A search is *under way*. [=in progress]

under-wear /ˌʌndəˈweə/ *noun* [*noncount*] : clothing that is worn next to your skin and under other clothing • He answered the door *in his underwear*. [=while wearing only underwear] • You should pack a *change of underwear*. [=addi-

tional underwear that you can wear at another time] • *long/thermal underwear* [=winter underwear that covers your arms and legs]

un·der·weight /ˌʌndəˈweɪt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : weighing less than the normal or expected amount : too light • He is slightly *underweight*. • She had become dangerously *underweight*. [=thin]

underwent *past tense of UNDERGO*

un·der·whelm /ˌʌndəˈwelɪm/ *verb* -whelms; -whelmed; -whelming [+ *obj*] *somewhat humorous* : to fail to impress (someone) • I was *underwhelmed* by the evidence/performance. [=the evidence/performance was not very good and did not impress me]

— **underwhelming** *adj* • The evidence is *underwhelming*. [=not very good or convincing] • an *underwhelming* performance

un·der·wire /ˌʌndəˈwaɪə/ *noun, pl* -wires [*count, non-count*] *chiefly US* : wire running through the bottom edge of a brassiere to provide support for a woman's breasts

— **underwire** (*chiefly US*) or *Brit* **un·der·wired** /ˌʌndəˈwaɪəd/ *adj* • an *underwire* bra

un·der·world /ˌʌndəˈwɜːld/ *noun* [*singular*]

1 : the world of crime and criminals • the criminal *underworld* • an *underworld* spy

2 *the underworld* : the place where dead people go in Greek myths

un·der·write /ˌʌndəˈraɪt/ *verb* -writes; -wrote /-ˌraʊt/; -writ·ten /-ˌrɪtɪn/; -writ·ing [+ *obj*]

1 *formal* : to give money to support (something, such as a new business) and agree to be responsible for any losses if it fails • *underwrite* an expedition/project

2 *technical* : to agree to pay for a certain kind of loss or damage by offering (an insurance policy) • *underwrite* a homeowner's policy

3 *technical* : to agree to buy (shares) that are not bought by investors when the shares are first offered for sale

— **un·der·writ·er** /ˌʌndəˈraɪtə/ *noun, pl* -ers [*count*] • an insurance *underwriter*

un·de·served /ˌʌndɪˈzɜːvd/ *adj* : not earned or deserved : unfair or unjustified • She was given *undeserved* credit for the idea. • an *undeserved* reputation • Her promotion wasn't entirely *undeserved*.

un·de·serv·ing /ˌʌndɪˈzɜːvɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : not having qualities that deserve praise, support, etc. • The article is written well but the author chose an *undeserving* subject. • He left all his money to his *undeserving* children. • (old-fashioned) the *undeserving* poor [=poor people who have bad moral character and do not deserve to be helped]

2 *not used before a noun* — used to say that someone should not have or be given something; + *of* • He is *undeserving of* the criticism he has received. [=he does not deserve the criticism he has received]

un·de·sir·able /ˌʌndɪˈzaɪəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : bad, harmful, or unpleasant • an *undesirable* behavior/habit • The drug has some *undesirable* side effects. • This may have *undesirable* consequences. : not worth having or getting : not desirable • Frankly, it's an *undesirable* and unpleasant job.

— **un·de·sir·abil·i·ty** /ˌʌndɪˈzaɪəˈbɪləti/ *noun* [*noncount*]
— **un·de·sir·ably** /ˌʌndɪˈzaɪəbli/ *adv* • costs are *undesirably* high

un·de·sir·ables /ˌʌndɪˈzaɪəbəbz/ *noun* [*plural*] : people who are considered to be dangerous or immoral • That bar seems to attract a lot of *undesirables*.

un·de·sired /ˌʌndɪˈzajəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : UNWANTED • *undesired* behaviors • an *undesired* outcome

un·de·tect·able /ˌʌndɪˈtektəbəl/ *adj* : impossible to discover or notice : not detectable • problems which are *undetectable* by modern medicine

un·de·tect·ed /ˌʌndɪˈtektəd/ *adj* : not noticed by anyone : not detected • The tumor was/went/remained *undetected* for years. • No one can slip by the guards *undetected*.

un·de·terred /ˌʌndɪˈtɜːd/ *adj* : not discouraged or stopped by problems, criticism, etc. • Despite the opposition to their proposal, they remain *undeterred*. • The team was *undeterred* by their recent losses.

un·de·vel·oped /ˌʌndɪˈveləpt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 *of land* : not used for building, farming, industry, etc. • *undeveloped* areas

2 *of a country, society, etc.* : having many poor people and a low level of industrial production : not developed • an *undeveloped* nation

3 : not fully grown or developed • *undeveloped* skills

un·dies /ˈʌndɪz/ *noun* [*plural*] *informal* : UNDERWEAR; *especially* : underpants or panties • a pair of *undies* • wearing *undies* and a bra

un·dif·fer·en·ti·at·ed /ˌʌnˌdɪfəˈrenʃi,etəd/ *adj* : not divided or able to be divided into different parts • an *undifferentiated* mass

un·dig·ni·fied /ˌʌnˈdɪɡnəˌfaɪd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not serious or formal : not dignified • Some people thought her behavior was *undignified*. [=silly, embarrassing] • There was an *undignified* rush to the door as soon as the meeting ended.

un·di·lut·ed /ˌʌnˌdaɪˈluːtəd/ *adj*

1 *literary, of emotions* : very strong : not mixed with other emotions • *undiluted* joy/pleasure

2 *of a liquid* : not mixed with water • *undiluted* [=pure] whiskey

un·di·min·ished /ˌʌndəˈmɪnɪʃt/ *adj* : not less, smaller, or weaker • She continued to work with *undiminished* enthusiasm. • His interest in the project remains *undiminished*.

un·dis·charged /ˌʌndɪsˈtʃɑːdʒd/ *adj, Brit* — used to describe a person who has been declared bankrupt by a court of law but who is still required to pay back money that is owed • an *undischarged* bankrupt

un·dis·ci·plined /ˌʌnˈdɪsəˌplənd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : behaving in a way that is not properly controlled, organized, serious, etc. : lacking discipline • He has been very *undisciplined* about studying. • *undisciplined* children

un·dis·closed /ˌʌndɪˈskləʊzd/ *adj* : not made known to the public : not named or identified • an *undisclosed* sale of stock • They settled out of court for an *undisclosed* amount.

un·dis·cov·ered /ˌʌndɪˈskʌvəd/ *adj* : not having been found or noticed : not discovered • *undiscovered* territory

un·dis·crim·i·nat·ing /ˌʌndɪˈskrɪməˌneɪtɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : unable to notice the differences between things that are of good quality and those that are not • *undiscriminating* tastes

un·dis·guised /ˌʌndəˈskaɪzd/ *adj, of a feeling* : not concealed or hidden • *undisguised* [=obvious] fear/hatred

un·dis·mayed /ˌʌndɪˈsmeɪd/ *adj* : not worried or upset • He was *undismayed* [=untroubled] by the setbacks.

un·dis·put·ed /ˌʌndɪˈspjuːtəd/ *adj*

1 : definitely true : not doubted or questioned • the *undisputed* facts of the case • It is *undisputed* that he knew the defendant.

2 : accepted by everyone • the *undisputed* leader/champion

un·dis·turbed /ˌʌndɪˈstɜːbd/ *adj*

1 : not moved, changed, touched, etc., by anyone or anything • an *undisturbed* forest/tomb • an area *undisturbed* by industrialization • I'd like to work *undisturbed* for a while. [=I'd like to work without being disturbed/interrupted for a while] • The nest should be *left undisturbed*. [=left alone]

2 : not upset or affected by something • She was *undisturbed* by the changes.

un·di·vid·ed /ˌʌndəˈvaɪdəd/ *adj*

1 : complete or total • You have my *undivided* [=full] attention.

2 : not separated into smaller parts • an *undivided* property

un·do /ˌʌnˈduː/ *verb* -does; -did /-ˈdɪd/; -done /-ˈdʌn/; -do·ing [+ *obj*]

1 : to open or release (something) : to unfasten or loosen (something) • *undo* a belt/button/zipper • She *undid* [=unbuttoned] her blouse. • I can't *undo* [=untie] this knot.

2 : to change or stop the effect of (something) : REVERSE • You can't *undo* the past. • The damage cannot be *undone*. • (computers) Will the program let me *undo* a change if I make a mistake?

3 *formal* : to cause the failure of (someone or something) • He was *undone* by greed.

— see also *UNDONE*

un·doc·u·ment·ed /ˌʌnˈdɒːkjəˌmentəd/ *adj*

1 : not having the official documents that are needed to enter, live in, or work in a country legally • *undocumented* workers/aliens/immigrants

2 : not supported by evidence that consists of documents : not having written proof • The company cannot reimburse you for *undocumented* travel expenses.

un·do·ing /ˌʌnˈduːwɪŋ/ *noun* [*singular*]

1 : something that causes someone's failure, ruin, etc. • My quick temper was my *undoing*.

2 : a state of failure, ruin, etc. • His quick temper helped lead to his *undoing*. • The incident resulted in her *undoing*.

un-done /ˌʌnˈdʌn/ *adj.* not used before a noun

1 : not fastened or tied • My shoelace is *undone*. = My shoelace has *come undone*.

2 : not done : unfinished • There were still some tasks *left undone*.

3 *old-fashioned* : defeated or destroyed • "... I am spoil'd, *undone* by villains!" —Shakespeare, *Othello* (1603–05)

un-doubt-ed /ˌʌnˈdaʊtəd/ *adj.* definitely true or existing : not doubted • an *undoubted* [=undisputed] truth/fact • his *undoubted* [=undeniable] charm

– **un-doubt-ed-ly** *adv.* • She was *undoubtedly* [=without a doubt] one of the best athletes in the school.

un-dreamed of /ˌʌnˈdriːmd-/ also chiefly Brit **un-dreamt of** /ˌʌnˈdremt-/ *adj.* : much more or better than you thought was possible • opportunities *undreamed of* 10 years ago — usually used as *undreamed-of* or *undreamt-of* before a noun • an *undreamed-of* opportunity

¹**un-dress** /ˌʌnˈdres/ *verb* -dress-es; -dressed; -dressing

1 [no obj] : to take your clothes off • She *undressed* and climbed into bed.

2 [+ obj] : to remove the clothes of (someone) • She *undressed* the children for bed.

²**undress** *noun* [noncount] *formal* : a state of wearing no clothing or of not being fully dressed • partial *undress* • She was in a *state of undress*. [=she was not dressed]

un-dressed /ˌʌnˈdrest/ *adj.*

1 not used before a noun : wearing no clothing : not dressed • I was *undressed* when the fire alarm went off. • She *got undressed* [=took off her clothes] and went to bed.

2 : not cared for or covered • an *undressed* wound

3 *technical* : not finished : not prepared for use • *undressed* hides/stones

un-drink-able /ˌʌnˈdriŋkəbəl/ *adj.* : unhealthy or unpleasant to drink • The water was *undrinkable* and had to be boiled. • an *undrinkable* wine

un-due /ˌʌnˈduː, Brit ˌʌnˈdjuː/ *adj.* always used before a noun, *formal* : more than is reasonable or necessary : EXCESSIVE • *undue* pressure/influence • These requirements shouldn't cause you any *undue* hardship/burden. • His writing is elegant without calling *undue* attention to itself.

un-du-late /ˈʌndʒəˌleɪt, Brit ˈʌndʒəˌleɪt/ *verb* -lates; -lat-ed; -lat-ing [no obj] *formal* : to move or be shaped like waves • *undulating* hills • an *undulating* surface

– **un-du-la-tion** /ˌʌndʒəˌleɪʃən, Brit ˌʌndʒəˌleɪʃən/ *noun*, pl -tions [count]

un-du-ly /ˌʌnˈduːli, Brit ˌʌnˈdjuːli/ *adv.* *formal* : to an extreme, unreasonable, or unnecessary degree : EXCESSIVELY • He wasn't *unduly* troubled/concerned. • taxes that *unduly* burden homeowners • The punishment was *unduly* harsh.

un-dy-ing /ˌʌnˈdaɪɪŋ/ *adj.* always used before a noun : lasting forever : never ending • *undying* gratitude/love • He swore his *undying* devotion to her.

un-earned /ˌʌnˈɜːnd/ *adj.* : not earned by working • Bank interest is regarded as *unearned* income.

un-earth /ˌʌnˈɜːθ/ *verb* -earths; -earthed; -earth-ing [+ obj]

1 : to find (something) that was buried in the earth • *unearth* [=dig up] buried treasure

2 : to find or discover (something) that was hidden or lost • *unearth* a secret • An old document was *unearthed* from the files. • They *unearthed* evidence that he had accepted bribes.

un-earth-ly /ˌʌnˈɜːθli/ *adj.*

1 : very strange, unnatural, and frightening • an *unearthly* scream

2 *Brit* : unreasonably early or late • She was up at an *unearthly* hour. [=ungodly hour] • We left at the *unearthly* time of 5:00 a.m.

un-ease /ˌʌnˈiːz/ *noun* [noncount] : a feeling of worry or unhappiness • A feeling of *unease* came over her. • They noticed increasing signs of *unease* among the workers. — often + about • I couldn't shake a sense of *unease* about what he told me. • He had a feeling of *unease* about the future.

un-easy /ˌʌnˈiːzi/ *adj.* [more ~; most ~]

1 : worried or unhappy about something • Rain made the crew *uneasy*. • I'm (feeling) *uneasy* about/with the change.

2 : likely to change or end : not secure or settled • an *uneasy* truce/alliance • He has an *uneasy* relationship with his father.

3 : awkward and uncomfortable : not relaxed • an *uneasy* silence • She's *uneasy* among strangers. • We spent an *uneasy* night waiting for news.

– **un-eas-i-ly** /ˌʌnˈiːzəli/ *adv.* • She looked around *uneasily*.

– **un-eas-i-ness** *noun* [noncount]

un-eat-en /ˌʌnˈiːtən/ *adj.* : not eaten • A lot of *uneaten* food remained after the banquet ended. • Most of her meal was *left uneaten*.

un-eco-nom-ic /ˌʌnˌekəˈnɑːmɪk/ *adj.*

1 : not making a profit • an *uneconomic* business

2 : UNECONOMICAL • an *uneconomic* car

un-eco-nom-i-cal /ˌʌnˌekəˈnɑːmɪkəl/ *adj.* [more ~; most ~] : not using money, resources, etc., in a careful way : not economical • an *uneconomical* car • It is *uneconomical* [=too expensive] to keep the factory running.

un-ed-i-fy-ing /ˌʌnˈɛdəˌfaɪɪŋ/ *adj.* [more ~; most ~] *formal* : unpleasant and offensive : causing embarrassment • an *un-edifying* sight/spectacle

un-ed-u-cat-ed /ˌʌnˈɛdʒəˌkeɪtəd/ *adj.* [more ~; most ~] : having or showing little or no formal schooling : not educated • an *uneducated* man • *uneducated* speech

un-emo-tion-al /ˌʌnɪˈmoʊʃənəl/ *adj.* [more ~; most ~] : not emotional : not showing emotion • an *unemotional* voice/manner • He was a cold and *unemotional* person.

un-em-ploy-able /ˌʌnɪmˈplɔɪəbəl/ *adj.* : lacking the skills, abilities, or qualities that are necessary to get or keep a job : not employable • His drug addiction has made him *unemployable*.

un-em-ployed /ˌʌnɪmˈplɔɪd/ *adj.* : having no job : not employed • *unemployed* workers • I'm currently *unemployed*.

the unemployed : people who have no jobs • centers for *the unemployed* • Many of *the city's unemployed* are former factory workers.

un-em-ploy-ment /ˌʌnɪmˈplɔɪmənt/ *noun* [noncount]

1 : the state of not having a job • My *unemployment* lasted about six months. • workers facing *unemployment*

2 : the total number of people who do not have jobs in a particular place or area • high/low *unemployment* • the level of *unemployment* • *Unemployment* has been increasing/rising for months. • The current *unemployment rate* is six percent.

3 *US* : money paid by the government to someone who does not have a job • She was *on unemployment* for a few months. = She was receiving/collecting *unemployment* for a few months. — called also *unemployment benefits*, (*Brit*) *unemployment benefit*, (*US*) *unemployment compensation*

un-end-ing /ˌʌnˈɛndɪŋ/ *adj.* : lasting forever • an *unending* [=endless, never-ending] quest/supply

un-en-dur-able /ˌʌnɪnˈdʌrəbəl, Brit ˌʌnɪnˈdʒʊərəbəl/ *adj.* : too unpleasant, painful, etc., to accept or endure • *unendurable* [=unbearable] pain/stress/suffering

un-en-light-ened /ˌʌnɪnˈlaɪtnd/ *adj.* [more ~; most ~] : not having or showing a good understanding of how people should be treated • *unenlightened* people/comments • his *unenlightened* [=ignorant] attitude about women's rights

un-en-thu-si-as-tic /ˌʌnɪnˌθuːziˈæstɪk, Brit ˌʌnɪnˌθjuːziˈæstɪk/ *adj.* [more ~; most ~] : having or showing a lack of excitement or interest : not enthusiastic • She seemed *unen-thusiastic* about the idea. • an *unenthusiastic* response

un-en-vi-able /ˌʌnˈɛnvɪəbəl/ *adj.* [more ~; most ~] : very bad or unpleasant • I was given the *unenviable* task of cleaning the toilets. • He found himself in the *unenviable* position of having to admit he'd lied.

un-equal /ˌʌnˈiːkwəl/ *adj.*

1 : not the same in a way that is unfair : giving more advantages, power, etc., to some people and less to other people for unfair reasons • *unequal* academic standards for male and female students • *unequal* justice/treatment based on race • an *unequal* contest/fight • the *unequal* [=uneven] distribution of wealth/resources

2 : different in number, degree, quality, size, etc. • *unequal* amounts • The two boards are *unequal* in length/size. = The two boards are *of unequal* length/size.

3 not used before a noun : not able to do what is needed — + to • She felt *unequal* to the job. [=she felt that she could not do the job]

– **un-equal-ly** *adv.* • He treats them *unequally*.

un-equal-ed also chiefly *Brit* **un-equalled** /ˌʌnˈiːkwəld/ *adj.* : better than all others : UNPARALLELED • an *unequaled* achievement/talent

un-equiv-o-cal /ˌʌnɪˈkwɪvəkəl/ *adj.* *formal* : very strong and clear : not showing or allowing any doubt : not equivocal • *unequivocal* evidence • Her answer was an *unequivocal* yes/no. • He told them in (*clear and*) *unequivocal terms* what was expected of them.

– **un-equiv-o-cal-ly** /ˌʌnɪˈkwɪvəkli/ *adv* • She refused *un-equivocally*.

un-err-ing /ˌʌnˈɛrɪŋ, ˌʌnˈəɪrɪŋ/ *adj, formal* : always right and accurate : making no errors • She has an *unerring* instinct for language. • He has an *unerring* sense of good taste.

– **un-err-ing-ly** *adv*

un-eth-i-cal /ˌʌnˈɛθɪkəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : morally bad : not ethical • *unethical* behavior/methods • a medical procedure that she considers *unethical*

– **un-eth-i-cal-ly** /ˌʌnˈɛθɪkli/ *adj*

un-even /ˌʌnˈiːvən/ *adj* : not even: such as **a** [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not level, flat, or smooth • large *uneven* teeth • *uneven* handwriting • an *uneven* surface/texture **b** [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not straight or parallel • *uneven* edges **c** [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not following a regular pattern : not the same in all parts or at all times : IRREGULAR • *uneven* heating/drying • His breathing was shallow and *uneven*. • You should check your car's tires often for signs of *uneven* wear. **d** [*more* ~; *most* ~] : better in some parts than in others : not consistently good • an *uneven* performance **e** [*more* ~; *most* ~] : unequal or unfair : giving an advantage to one side or group • an *uneven* distribution of wealth/resources **f** [*more* ~; *most* ~] : more likely to be won easily by one side than the other : having competitors with an unequal chance of winning • an *uneven* match **g** : ODD 5a • We have an *uneven* number of players, so we'll have to rotate.

– **un-even-ly** *adv* • *unevenly* cooked food • *unevenly* matched teams • The money was distributed *unevenly*.

– **un-even-ness** /ˌʌnˈiːvənnəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

uneven bars *noun* [*plural*] *sports* : a pair of long bars that are supported by a base, are parallel to each other at different heights, and are used in gymnastics — called also *uneven parallel bars*; compare PARALLEL BARS

un-event-ful /ˌʌnɪˈvɛntfəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having nothing exciting, interesting, or unusual happening : not eventful • an *uneventful* vacation/day/life • The flight home was *uneventful*.

– **un-event-ful-ly** *adv* • The day began *uneventfully*.

un-ex-cep-tion-able /ˌʌnɪkˈsɛpʃənəbəl/ *adj, formal* : not likely to cause objection or offense — usually used to describe something that is good but not outstanding or excellent • Her work was *unexceptionable*.

un-ex-cep-tion-al /ˌʌnɪkˈsɛpʃənəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not unusually good, interesting, etc. : not exceptional • an *unexceptional* [=unremarkable] student/writer • As an actor he was *unexceptional*, but he had a beautiful singing voice.

un-ex-pect-ed /ˌʌnɪkˈspɛktəd/ *adj* : not expected • *unexpected* consequences/results • *unexpected* guests • an *unexpected* turn of events • The story is full of *unexpected* [=surprising] twists. • I'm sad that she's leaving, but it was not *unexpected*. • Drivers must always be prepared to deal with *the unexpected*. [=things that happen unexpectedly]

– **un-ex-pect-ed-ly** *adv* • Guests arrived *unexpectedly*. • Sales were *unexpectedly* high this month.

un-ex-plained /ˌʌnɪkˈsplɛɪnd/ *adj* : having no known reason or cause : not explained • an *unexplained* death/illness • For some *unexplained* reason, the plane went off course.

un-ex-plod-ed /ˌʌnɪkˈsploudəd/ *adj, of a bomb* : not yet exploded : LIVE • *unexploded* bombs/mines • an *unexploded* shell

un-ex-plored /ˌʌnɪkˈsploəd/ *adj*

1 : not yet investigated or explored • *unexplored* territory

2 : not yet studied or discussed thoroughly • The subject is still *unexplored*.

un-ex-pur-gat-ed /ˌʌnˈɛkspəˌɡeɪtəd/ *adj, formal, of a book, play, etc.* : with all the parts that might offend people still included • She had read an *unexpurgated* version of the text.

un-fail-ing /ˌʌnˈfeɪlɪŋ/ *adj* : not failing or likely to fail: such as **a** : never changing or becoming weaker even in difficult times • *unfailing* loyalty/support • She is known for her *unfailing* optimism. **b** : always providing enough of what is needed • an *unfailing* [=inexhaustible] supply

– **un-fail-ing-ly** *adv* • He is *unfailingly* [=always] punctual/polite.

un-fair /ˌʌnˈfeə/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : treating people in a way that favors some over others : not fair, honest, or just • an *unfair* trial • *unfair* advantages • It's *unfair* for them to be allowed to leave early if we can't. • It seems *unfair* to single her out for criticism. • Don't you think you're being a little *unfair* (to her)? • Life is often *unfair*. • The company has been accused of *unfair* labor practices.

– **un-fair-ly** *adv* • They treated her *unfairly*. – **un-fair-ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

un-faith-ful /ˌʌnˈfeɪθfəl/ *adj*

1 : having a sexual relationship with someone who is not your wife, husband, or partner • an *unfaithful* husband — often + *to* • She has been *unfaithful to* him over the years. [=she has had sex with other people]

2 : not accurate • an *unfaithful* translation — often + *to* • The movie was *unfaithful to* the book. [=the movie did not tell the story the way it was written in the book]

– **un-faith-ful-ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

un-fa-mil-iar /ˌʌnfəˈmɪljə/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not frequently seen, heard, or experienced • He gets nervous when he is in *unfamiliar* surroundings. • an *unfamiliar* face/place • The book is full of *unfamiliar* words. — often + *to* • The language is *unfamiliar to* him. [=he does not know the language at all]

unfamiliar with (something) : not having any knowledge of something • I'm *unfamiliar with* that subject/language.

– **un-fa-mil-iar-i-ty** /ˌʌnfəˈmɪljərəti/ *noun* [*noncount*] • His *unfamiliarity* with the language made the trip very challenging.

un-fash-ion-able /ˌʌnˈfæʃənəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not currently popular or stylish : not fashionable • *unfashionable* shoes

un-fas-ten /ˌʌnˈfæsn, Brit ˌʌnˈfæːsn/ *verb* -tens; -tened; -ten-ing [+ *obj*] : to make (something) loose : UNDO • *unfasten* a belt/buckle/button

un-fath-om-able /ˌʌnˈfæðəməbəl/ *adj, literary* : impossible to understand • *unfathomable* reasons/motives • His behavior is completely *unfathomable*.

un-fa-vor-able (US) or *Brit un-fa-vour-able* /ˌʌnˈfeɪvərəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : likely to cause problems or difficulties • *unfavorable* [=bad] weather for a camping trip

2 : expressing disapproval • *unfavorable* [=critical] comments • The movie has gotten some *unfavorable* [=bad] reviews. • She formed an *unfavorable* impression of him. • The article cast/put him *in an unfavorable light*. [=the article made him look bad]

– **un-fa-vor-ably** (US) or *Brit un-fa-vour-ably* /ˌʌnˈfeɪvərəbli/ *adv*

un-fazed /ˌʌnˈfeɪzd/ *adj* : not confused, worried, or shocked by something that has happened • She was *unfazed* by the delay.

un-feel-ing /ˌʌnˈfiːlɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not kind or sympathetic toward other people • She says the most *unfeeling* things. • How can you be so cold and *unfeeling*?

– **un-feel-ing-ly** *adv*

un-feigned /ˌʌnˈfeɪnd/ *adj* : not false or pretended : GENUINE • an *unfeigned* [=real] interest in people • She looked at him with *unfeigned* admiration.

un-fet-tered /ˌʌnˈfetəd/ *adj, formal* : not controlled or restricted • *unfettered* [=free] access • an *unfettered* market

un-filled /ˌʌnˈfɪld/ *adj* : not filled: such as **a** : available because no one has been chosen to take it • The job/position is still *unfilled*. **b** : requested but not yet prepared or given • an *unfilled* order • *unfilled* prescriptions

un-fin-ish-ed /ˌʌnˈfɪnɪʃt/ *adj* : not completed : not finished • an *unfinished* building/play/sentence • *unfinished* furniture [=furniture made of wood that has not yet been stained or varnished]

unfinished business : something that you need to deal with or work on : something that has not yet been done, dealt with, or completed • You and I still have some *unfinished business* together.

un-fit /ˌʌnˈfɪt/ *adj*

1 : not proper, suitable, or acceptable — often + *for* • The movie is *unfit for* children. [=children should not watch the movie] • The land is *unfit for* human habitation. — often followed by *to* + *verb* • The food was *unfit to eat*.

2 : not having the necessary qualities, skills, mental health, etc., to do something • an *unfit* parent [=a person who cannot care for a child properly] — often + *for* • He's clearly *unfit for* the position. • He's *unfit for* army service. • The defendant was declared *unfit for* trial. — sometimes followed by *to* + *verb* • The defendant is *unfit to stand* trial.

3 : not physically healthy : not in good physical condition • Her sisters are overweight and *unfit*. [=out of shape]

– **un-fit-ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

un-flag-ging /ˌʌnˈflæɡɪŋ/ *adj* : not decreasing or becoming

U

weaker : remaining strong • her *unflagging* energy/enthusiasm

un-flap-pa-ble /ˌʌnˈflæpəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not easily upset : unusually calm in difficult situations • He has a reputation for being *unflappable*.

un-flat-ter-ing /ˌʌnˈflætərɪŋ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : making someone or something look or seem worse or less attractive : not flattering • She was wearing the most *unflattering* outfit. • an *unflattering* color • *unflattering* news coverage

un-flinch-ing /ˌʌnˈflɪntʃɪŋ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : staying strong and determined even when things are difficult • *unflinching* dedication

2 : looking at or describing something or someone in a very direct way • his *unflinching* gaze • The movie takes an *unflinching* look at the war. [=it tells the truth about the war, even the unpleasant parts]

— **un-flinch-ing-ly** *adv*

un-fo-cused or *Brit* **un-fo-cussed** /ˌʌnˈfoukəst/ *adj* : not focused: such as **a** : not relating to or directed toward one specific thing (such as a particular goal or task) • an *unfocused* approach to studying • Your essay seems *unfocused* and unclear. • He seemed a little *unfocused* [=distracted] today. • She has lots of *unfocused* energy/anger. **b** : not looking at anything specific • an *unfocused* gaze • Her eyes were *unfocused*.

un-fold /ˌʌnˈfould/ *verb* -folds; -fold-ed; -fold-ing

1 : to spread or cause (something) to spread or straighten out from a folded position [+ *obj*] *unfold* a map/newspaper [no *obj*] The couch *unfolds* to form a bed.

2 [no *obj*] : to happen as time passes • We'll have more news as events *unfold*. • We watched the drama *unfold* on live television.

3 [no *obj*] : to be told or made known • As the story *unfolds*, we learn that the boy became an orphan when he was one year old.

un-forced /ˌʌnˈfɔəst/ *adj*

1 : not caused by someone else : caused by your own poor play, performance, etc. • an *unforced* error

2 : natural and done without effort • an *unforced* smile/style

un-fore-see-able /ˌʌnˌfoəˈsiːjəbəl/ *adj* : impossible to predict or expect • *unforeseeable* problems

un-fore-seen /ˌʌnˌfoəˈsiːn/ *adj* : not predicted or expected : UNEXPECTED • *unforeseen* consequences • cancellations due to illness and other *unforeseen* circumstances • Barring any *unforeseen* problems, we should finish on time.

un-for-get-ta-ble /ˌʌnfəˈgetəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : very special, unusual, beautiful, etc., and therefore difficult or impossible to forget • It was an *unforgettable* [=memorable] experience/night.

— **un-for-get-ta-bly** /ˌʌnfəˈgetəbli/ *adv*

un-for-giv-able /ˌʌnfəˈgɪvəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : so bad that it can never be forgiven • an *unforgivable* crime/sin • His comment was *unforgivable*. [=inexcusable]

— **un-for-giv-ably** /ˌʌnfəˈgɪvəbli/ *adv*

un-for-giv-ing /ˌʌnfəˈgɪvɪŋ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : not willing to forgive other people • an *unforgiving* person/attitude • They are *unforgiving* of the smallest mistake.

2 : very harsh or difficult : not allowing weakness, error, etc. • an *unforgiving* climate/environment • the *unforgiving* world of politics

un-formed /ˌʌnˈfoəmd/ *adj* : not fully or completely developed • an *unformed* thought/idea • *unformed* young minds

un-for-tu-nate /ˌʌnˈfoʊtənət/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : not fortunate: such as **a** : having bad luck : UNLUCKY • She was *unfortunate* enough to have been chosen as an example. • the *unfortunate* victim • some *unfortunate* person **b** : coming or happening by bad luck • an *unfortunate* experience/result • an *unfortunate* chain of events • *unfortunate* investments • It's *unfortunate* that he couldn't be here for your birthday.

2 : not appropriate or desirable • He has an *unfortunate* tendency to show up late. • an *unfortunate* choice of words

unfortunate *noun, pl* -nates [count] *literary* : an unfortunate person • a group of poor *unfortunates*

un-for-tu-nate-ly /ˌʌnˈfoʊtənətli/ *adv* [more ~; most ~] — used to say that something bad or unlucky has happened • *Unfortunately*, we didn't finish on time. • *Unfortunately* for us, the car broke down. • That, *unfortunately*, cannot be guaranteed. • “Would you like to have dinner with us?” “I can't, *unfortunately*. I have to work.” • The show was great, but *unfortunately* we had very bad seats. — opposite FORTUNATELY

un-found-ed /ˌʌnˈfaʊndəd/ *adj, formal* : not based on facts or proof : GROUNDLESS • *unfounded* claims/rumors • His fears are *unfounded*.

un-freeze /ˌʌnˈfriːz/ *verb* -freez-es; -froze /-ˈfrouz/; -frozen /-ˈfrouzn/; -freez-ing

1 : to stop being frozen or to cause (something) to stop being frozen : THAW [no *obj*] We can't wait until the ground *unfreezes* so we can start gardening. [+ *obj*] The warm weather *unfroze* the lake.

2 [+ *obj*] : to allow (money or property) to be used, spent, etc. • The Justice Department agreed to *unfreeze* the company's assets.

3 : to start working properly again [no *obj*] I had to wait for my computer to *unfreeze* before I could read my e-mail. [+ *obj*] He helped me to *unfreeze* my computer.

— **unfrozen** *adj* • an *unfrozen* lake • The computer is *unfrozen*.

un-friend-ly /ˌʌnˈfrendli/ *adj* **un-friend-li-er; -est** : not friendly: such as **a** : not kind or helpful • *unfriendly* people • They were very *unfriendly* to/towards us. **b** : not showing kind or friendly feelings • an *unfriendly* greeting/stare **c** : harmful or unpleasant • an *unfriendly* environment **d** — used to describe a country, government, etc., that opposes yours • *unfriendly* nations

— **un-friend-li-ness** /ˌʌnˈfrendlinəs/ *noun* [noncount]

un-ful-filled /ˌʌnˌfʊlˈfɪld/ *adj*

1 : not yet achieved • an *unfulfilled* dream/promise

2 : not feeling happy and satisfied about life : feeling that your abilities and talents are not being fully used • She's bored and *unfulfilled* at her job.

un-ful-fill-ing /ˌʌnˌfʊlˈfɪlɪŋ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not providing happiness or satisfaction : not fulfilling • an *unfulfilling* job/relationship

un-fun-ny /ˌʌnˈfʌni/ *adj, disapproving* : not funny • He told some *unfunny* jokes that made us all uncomfortable.

un-furl /ˌʌnˈfɜːl/ *verb* -furls; -furled; -furl-ing : to cause (something that is folded or rolled up) to open [+ *obj*] They *unfurled* the sails. • *unfurl* a flag/banner [no *obj*] The flowers/leaves are starting to *unfurl*. [=open]

un-fur-nished /ˌʌnˈfɜːnɪʃt/ *adj* : without furniture : not furnished • She rented an *unfurnished* apartment.

un-gain-ly /ˌʌnˈgeɪnli/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : moving in an awkward or clumsy way : not graceful • a large, *ungainly* animal • He was tall and *ungainly*.

— **un-gain-li-ness** *noun* [noncount]

un-glued /ˌʌnˈgluːd/ *adj*

come unglued *US, informal* 1 : to become extremely upset or angry • She *came unglued* when they refused her request. 2 : to fail suddenly or completely • Their marriage *came unglued* [= (Brit) *came unstuck*] soon after the baby was born.

un-god-ly /ˌʌnˈgɔːdli/ *adj* **un-god-li-er; -est** [or more ~; most ~]

1 somewhat old-fashioned **a** : not believing in or respecting God • *ungodly* people **b** : immoral or evil • *ungodly* behavior

2 always used before a noun : very bad or shocking : outrageous or unacceptable • They need an *ungodly* [=extremely large] amount of money to complete the project. • What an *ungodly* racket they're making! • Who would call at this *ungodly* hour? [=who would call so late/early?]

— **un-god-li-ness** /ˌʌnˈgɔːdlinəs/ *noun* [noncount]

un-gov-ern-able /ˌʌnˈgʌvənəbəl/ *adj, formal*

1 : impossible to govern • The people there seemed almost *ungovernable*.

2 : impossible to control • an *ungovernable* temper

un-gra-cious /ˌʌnˈɡreɪʃəs/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *formal* : not polite or respectful : not gracious : RUDE • There's no need to be *ungracious* about it. • an *ungracious* response

— **un-gra-cious-ly** *adv* — **un-gra-cious-ness** *noun* [noncount]

un-gram-mat-i-cal /ˌʌnɡrəˈmætɪkəl/ *adj* : not following the rules of grammar : not grammatical • an *ungrammatical* sentence

un-grate-ful /ˌʌnˈɡreɪtʃəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not feeling or showing thanks for favors, gifts, etc. : not grateful • an *ungrateful* child • I don't mean to seem *ungrateful*.

— **un-grate-ful-ly** *adv* — **un-grate-ful-ness** *noun* [noncount]

un-ground-ed /ˌʌnˈɡraʊndəd/ *adj* : not based on facts : GROUNDLESS • *ungrounded* accusations

un-guard-ed /ˌʌnˈɡɑːdəd/ *adj*

1 : speaking carelessly without thinking about what you are saying : direct and honest especially when you should be cautious • an *unguarded* remark • I let the secret about the surprise party spill out *in an unguarded moment*

2 : not protected or watched over • an *unguarded* border

un·guent /ˈʌŋgwənt/ *noun, pl -guents* [count] *old-fashioned* : an oily substance that is put on the skin or a wound

un·guid·ed /ˌʌnˈgaɪdəd/ *adj* : not controlled or led by anyone or anything : not guided • an *unguided* tour • *unguided* missiles

un·ham·pered /ˌʌnˈhæmpəd/ *adj* : allowed to move, progress, or happen without difficulties or obstacles • *unhampered* freedom — usually + *by* • She enjoyed a season *unhampered by* injury.

un·hap·pi·ly /ˌʌnˈhæpəli/ *adv*

1 : without happiness : in an unhappy manner • They were *unhappily* married for two years.

2 : in a way that is unfortunate or unlucky • *Unhappily* [=unfortunately], many of the passengers got seasick on the tour.

un·hap·py /ˌʌnˈhæpi/ *adj* **un·hap·pi·er; -est** [or more ~; most ~]

1 : sad, depressed, or disappointed : not happy • I can see that he's *unhappy*, but I don't know why. • I've never seen her looking so *unhappy*. • I left the store an *unhappy* [=unsatisfied] customer. — often + *with* • He was *unhappy with* the quality of the food. — often + *about* • The children were all *unhappy about* going back to school. — often + *that* • She was *unhappy that* her favorite television show was canceled.

2 : causing or involving feelings of sadness : not pleasant or joyful • an *unhappy* childhood/marriage • For three *unhappy* days we were all stuck in the house because of the blizzard.

3 : not appropriate or lucky • an *unhappy* choice of career/words • The movie's hero meets an *unhappy* fate.

— **un·hap·pi·ness** *noun* [noncount] • His *unhappiness* was clear from the expression on his face.

un·harmed /ˌʌnˈhɑːmd/ *adj, not used before a noun* : safe or unhurt : not harmed • They escaped from the fire *unharmed*.

un·healthy /ˌʌnˈhelθi/ *adj* **un·health·i·er; -est** [or more ~; most ~] : not healthy: such as **a** : not having or showing good health • an *unhealthy* liver • *unhealthy* workers • Her skin looks blotchy and *unhealthy*. **b** : harmful to your health : likely to make you sick • *unhealthy* eating habits • Tests revealed an *unhealthy* level of lead in the water. • Eating honey can be *unhealthy* for babies. **c** : not doing well : not successful • an *unhealthy* economy • a financially *unhealthy* company **d** : involving or causing feelings and thoughts that are not normal and healthy • He was stuck in an *unhealthy* relationship. • She has an *unhealthy* interest in natural disasters.

— **un·health·i·ly** /ˌʌnˈhelθəli/ *adv*

un·heard /ˌʌnˈhɜːd/ *adj*

1 : not given attention • The students' concerns *went unheard* [=were ignored] by the school's administration.

2 : not heard or listened to • Their cries for help were *unheard*. • a previously *unheard* recording

un·heard·of /ˌʌnˈhɜːd,ʌv/ *adj* : not known to have existed or happened before : very unusual • In those days, indoor plumbing was almost *unheard-of*. [=very few people had indoor plumbing] • He was hired for an *unheard-of* salary of more than a million dollars. • It's not *unheard-of* for a patient's condition to improve this quickly.

un·heat·ed /ˌʌnˈhiːtəd/ *adj* : not having a system that provides warmth : not heated • an *unheated* room/home

un·heed·ed /ˌʌnˈhiːdəd/ *adj* : heard or noticed but then ignored or not followed • *unheeded* warnings • The panel's recommendations *went unheeded*. [=were ignored]

un·help·ful /ˌʌnˈhelpfəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : giving no help : not helpful or useful • His advice was well-intended but *unhelpful*.

— **un·help·ful·ly** *adv* — **un·help·ful·ness** *noun* [noncount]

un·her·ald·ed /ˌʌnˈherəldəd/ *adj, formal*

1 : not getting the praise or appreciation that is deserved • Our goalie is one of the *unheralded* players on our team.

2 : happening without any warning • an *unheralded* [=unexpected] visit

un·hes·i·tat·ing /ˌʌnˈhezəˌteɪtɪŋ/ *adj* : done, made, or shown quickly and immediately without waiting or hesitating • an *unhesitating* reply • They responded to the danger with *unhesitating* courage.

— **un·hes·i·tat·ing·ly** *adv* • She *unhesitatingly* accepted their offer.

un·hin·dered /ˌʌnˈhɪndəd/ *adj* : able or allowed to happen or continue without being slowed, stopped, or made more difficult • a journey *unhindered* by rain • She was given *unhindered* access to the files.

un·hinge /ˌʌnˈhɪŋdʒ/ *verb* **-hing·es; -hinged; -hing·ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (someone) very upset or mentally ill — usually used as (be) *unhinged* • He was *unhinged* by grief.

un·hip /ˌʌnˈhɪp/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] chiefly US : not knowing about or following the newest styles, fashions, etc. : not hip • The students thought that their teachers were hopelessly *unhip*.

un·hitch /ˌʌnˈhɪtʃ/ *verb* **-hitch·es; -hitched; -hitch·ing** [+ *obj*] : to disconnect (something) that is attached to something else by a knot, hook, or hitch • We *unhitched* the trailer from the car. • They *unhitched* the horses.

un·ho·ly /ˌʌnˈhouli/ *adj*

1 : not showing respect for a god or a religion : not holy • an *unholy* attitude

2 — used to describe people or groups that are working together for a bad purpose • an *unholy* alliance between politicians and lobbyists

3 always used before a noun, informal : shockingly or surprisingly bad, large, etc. • Our finances were an *unholy* mess. • They have spent an *unholy* amount of money on the project.

un·hook /ˌʌnˈhʊk/ *verb* **-hooks; -hooked; -hook·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to remove (something) from a hook • He *unhooked* the fish from the line.

2 : to open or remove (something that is attached with hooks) • She reached behind her and *unhooked* her bra.

un·hur·ried /ˌʌnˈhʊrɪd/ *adj* : not happening or done quickly or too quickly : relaxed and calm • We strolled along at an *unhurried* [=leisurely] pace.

— **un·hur·ried·ly** *adv*

un·hurt /ˌʌnˈhɜːt/ *adj, not used before a noun* : not hurt • They were *unhurt* [=unharmed] in the crash.

un·hy·gien·ic /ˌʌnˈhaɪˌdʒenɪk/ *adj* : not clean and therefore likely to make you sick : not hygienic • *unhygienic* conditions

uni /ˈjuːni/ *noun, pl unis* informal

1 [count] US : UNIFORM • The players were wearing their new *unis*.

2 [noncount] Brit : UNIVERSITY • She spent the first year after *uni* looking for a job.

uni- prefix : one : single • *unilateral*

uni·cam·er·al /ˌjuːnɪˈkæməɪl/ *adj, technical* : having only one part — used to describe a government in which the people who make laws are not divided into more than one group • a *unicameral* parliament

UNICEF /ˈjuːnəˌseɪf/ *abbr* United Nations Children's Fund ✧ UNICEF is an organization created by the United Nations to help children in poor countries around the world.

uni·corn /ˈjuːnəˌkɔːn/ *noun, pl -corns* [count] : an imaginary animal that looks like a horse and has a straight horn growing from the middle of its forehead

uni·cy·cle /ˈjuːnɪˌsaɪkəl/ *noun, pl -cy·cles* [count] : a vehicle that is similar to a bicycle but has only one wheel — compare BICYCLE, TRICYCLE

un·iden·ti·fi·able /ˌʌnaɪˌdɛntəˈfajəbəl/ *adj* : impossible to identify • Many of the bodies pulled out of the wreckage were *unidentifiable*. • an *unidentifiable* substance

un·iden·ti·fied /ˌʌnaɪˌdɛntəˈfaɪd/ *adj* : not known or identified • Police said that an *unidentified* person saved the boy from drowning. • an *unidentified flying object* [=UFO]

¹ **uni·form** /ˈjuːnəˌfɔːm/ *noun, pl -forms* : a special kind of clothing that is worn by all the members of a group or organization (such as an army or team) [count] a school/police/baseball *uniform* [noncount] soldiers *in (full) uniform* [=wearing uniforms] — see color picture on page C16

² **uniform** *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not varying or changing : staying the same at all times, in all places, or for all parts or members • The museum is kept at a *uniform* temperature to protect the artifacts. • The cookies should be *uniform* in size. = The cookies should be of *uniform* size. • All departments have *uniform* training standards.

— **uni·form·ly** *adv* • The trees are *uniformly* [=evenly] spaced along the walkway. • *uniformly* high standards

uni-formed /ˈjuːnəˌfɔːmd/ *adj* : dressed in a uniform • *uni-formed* officers/police/soldiers

uni-for-mi-ty /ˌjuːnəˈfɔːməti/ *noun* : the quality or state of being the same : the quality or state of being uniform or identical [*noncount*] There is little *uniformity* among the states in voting procedures. [=different states have different voting procedures] [*singular*] There is a *uniformity* of opinion among the students. [=they all have the same opinion]

uni-fy /ˈjuːnəˌfaɪ/ *verb* -fies; -fied; -fy-ing [+ *obj*] : to cause (people or things) to be joined or brought together : UNITE • The creation of the national railroad system *unified* the country. • two very different people *unified* by a common belief

– **uni-fi-ca-tion** /ˌjuːnəfəˈkeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] • the *unification* of Germany

uni-lat-er-al /ˌjuːnɪˈlætərəl/ *adj* : involving only one group or country • Our country is prepared to take *unilateral* action. • a *unilateral* cease-fire — compare BILATERAL, MULTILATERAL, TRILATERAL

– **uni-lat-er-al-ism** /ˌjuːnɪˈlætərəˌlɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*]

– **uni-lat-er-al-ly** *adv* • We will act *unilaterally* to defend our interests.

un-imag-in-able /ˌʌnəˈmædʒənəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not possible to imagine : beyond what you would normally imagine • the *unimaginable* horrors of war • a disaster of almost *unimaginable* proportions • This technology would have been *unimaginable* five years ago.

– **un-imag-in-ably** /ˌʌnəˈmædʒənəbli/ *adv* • *unimaginably* large numbers

un-imag-i-na-tive /ˌʌnəˈmædʒənətɪv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not having or showing an ability to think of new and interesting ideas : not imaginative • a predictable and *unimaginative* writer/book • The service is great but the menu is *unimaginative*.

– **un-imag-i-na-tive-ly** *adv*

un-imag-ined /ˌʌnəˈmædʒənd/ *adj* : not yet thought of : not imagined • Space exploration holds *unimagined* possibilities.

un-im-paired /ˌʌnɪmˈpeəd/ *adj* : not made weaker or worse by illness, injury, etc. : not impaired • He suffered some brain damage but his speech remained *unimpaired*. • *unimpaired* drivers [=drivers who are not drunk, drugged, etc.]

un-im-peach-able /ˌʌnɪmˈpiːtʃəbəl/ *adj*, *formal* : very reliable and trusted : not able to be doubted or questioned • a person of *unimpeachable* integrity • The information is from an *unimpeachable* source.

– **un-im-peach-ably** /ˌʌnɪmˈpiːtʃəbli/ *adv* • an *unimpeachably* honest person

un-im-ped-ed /ˌʌnɪmˈpiːdəd/ *adj* : not slowed, delayed, or blocked • an *unimpeded* view of the ocean • They had *unimpeded* access to the archives. • He crossed the border *unimpeded* (by police).

un-im-por-tant /ˌʌnɪmˈpɔːtnt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not important • She played a relatively *unimportant* role in the movie. • *unimportant* [=trivial] details/matters

– **un-im-por-tance** /ˌʌnɪmˈpɔːtns/ *noun* [*noncount*] • He doesn't waste time on issues of relative *unimportance*.

un-im-pressed /ˌʌnɪmˈprest/ *adj*, *not used before a noun* : not feeling that someone or something is very good or special : not impressed • He was *unimpressed* by/with their arguments.

un-im-pres-sive /ˌʌnɪmˈpresɪv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not deserving attention, admiration, or respect : not impressive • Her work is good but *unimpressive*. • an *unimpressive* performance

un-in-formed /ˌʌnɪnˈfɔːmd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not having knowledge or information about something : not informed • Many Americans are sadly *uninformed* [=ignorant] about politics. • *uninformed* readers • an *uninformed* opinion

un-in-hab-it-able /ˌʌnɪnˈhæbətəbəl/ *adj* : not safe or suitable to be lived in • an *uninhabitable* wasteland • Flooding made the building *uninhabitable*.

un-in-hab-it-ed /ˌʌnɪnˈhæbətəd/ *adj*, *of a place* : not lived in by people • a small *uninhabited* island

un-in-hib-it-ed /ˌʌnɪnˈhɪbətəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : able to express thoughts and feelings freely : not inhibited • She's very *uninhibited* and is always the life of the party.

un-ini-ti-at-ed /ˌʌnɪˈnɪʃɪətəd/ *noun*

the *uninitiated* : people who do not have knowledge of or

experience with something • For the *uninitiated*, let me explain how this device works.

– **uninitiated** *adj* • An *uninitiated* observer might find his behavior strange.

un-in-jured /ˌʌnˈɪndʒəd/ *adj* : not hurt : not injured • The driver of the car died but the passengers were *uninjured*.

un-in-spired /ˌʌnɪnˈspajəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not very good or clever : not inspired • She gave an *uninspired* performance. • The menu was *uninspired*.

un-in-spir-ing /ˌʌnɪnˈspairɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not causing people to want to do or create something : not inspiring • an *uninspiring* public speaker • The landscape was dreary and *uninspiring*.

un-in-sured /ˌʌnɪnˈʃəd/ *adj* : not having insurance : not insured • *uninsured* drivers

the *uninsured* : people who do not have insurance

un-in-tel-li-gent /ˌʌnɪnˈtelədʒənt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not intelligent • The radio show was full of *unintelligent* banter. • *unintelligent* animals

un-in-tel-li-gi-ble /ˌʌnɪnˈtelədʒəbəl/ *adj* : impossible to understand : not intelligible • He left an *unintelligible* message on my voice mail. — often + *to* • They have their own lingo that is *unintelligible to* outsiders.

– **un-in-tel-li-gi-bly** /ˌʌnɪnˈtelədʒəbli/ *adv*

un-in-tend-ed /ˌʌnɪnˈtendəd/ *adj* : not planned as a purpose or goal : not intended • an *unintended* pregnancy • The proposed bill could have *unintended consequences*.

un-in-ten-tion-al /ˌʌnɪnˈtenʃənəl/ *adj* : not done in a way that is planned or intended : not intentional • If I said something to offend you, I swear it was *unintentional*. • an *unintentional* omission/error

– **un-in-ten-tion-al-ly** *adv* • He *unintentionally* stepped on my foot.

un-in-ter-est-ed /ˌʌnˈɪntrəstəd/ *adj* : not wanting to learn more about something or become involved in something : not interested — often + *in* • She seemed *uninterested in* our problems.

un-in-ter-est-ing /ˌʌnˈɪntrəstɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : dull and boring : not interesting • a topic that is *uninteresting to* most readers • The food was bland and *uninteresting*.

un-in-ter-rupt-ed /ˌʌnɪntəˈrʌptəd/ *adj* : not interrupted, stopped, or blocked • She managed eight hours of *uninterrupted* [=continuous] sleep. • a workday *uninterrupted* by distractions • From the hotel window we had an *uninterrupted* view of the ocean.

– **un-in-ter-rupt-ed-ly** *adv*

un-in-vit-ed /ˌʌnɪnˈvaɪtəd/ *adj* : not asked or expected to come or to do something with others : not invited • She showed up *uninvited*. • I was annoyed that he brought two *uninvited guests* to my party.

un-in-vit-ing /ˌʌnɪnˈvaɪtɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not appealing or attractive : not inviting • He was facing the *uninviting* prospect of having to move again. • The house was dark and *uninviting*.

un-in-volved /ˌʌnɪnˈvɔːlvd/ *adj* : not involved : not having a part in some activity • He was *uninvolved* in the crime.

union /ˈjuːnjən/ *noun*, *pl unions*

1 [*count*] : an organization of workers formed to protect the rights and interests of its members • She joined the teachers' *union*. • *union* members/leaders/officials — called also (US) *labor union*, (Brit) *trade union*

2 [*noncount*] : an act of joining two or more things together • An embryo is created through the *union* of sperm and egg. • a perfect *union* of Eastern and Western music

3 [*singular*] : a group of states or nations that are ruled by one government or that agree to work together • the former Soviet *Union* • the European *Union*

4 the *Union* **a** : the United States • Utah joined the *Union* in 1896. ♦ The *State of the Union address* is a yearly speech given by the U.S. President to Congress and the people to tell them about important things that are affecting the country.

b : the group of northern states that supported the federal government during the American Civil War • One brother fought for the *Union* and one for the Confederacy. — often used as *Union* before another noun • *Union* soldiers

5 [*count*] : an organized group of people, businesses, etc., that have the same purpose or interest • the American Civil Liberties *Union* • the International Skating *Union* — see also STUDENT UNION

6 *formal* : the act of getting married or of causing two people to be married [*noncount*] the *union* of two people in marriage [*count*] They celebrated their *union* [=marriage]

with more than 200 friends and family members. — see also CIVIL UNION

7 [*count, noncount*] *formal* : the activity or an act of having sex • sexual *union*

union·ist /'ju:njənɪst/ *noun, pl -ists* [*count*]

1 : someone who supports labor unions

2 *Unionist* : a supporter of the Union (sense 4b) during the American Civil War

3 *Unionist* : a person who believes that Northern Ireland should remain a part of the United Kingdom

— **union·ism** /'ju:njənɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*]

union·ize also *Brit union·ise* /'ju:njənɪz/ *verb -iz·es; -ized; -iz·ing*

1 [*no obj*] : to form or join a labor union • Workers are fighting for the right to *unionize*.

2 [*+ obj*] : to help (people) form or join a labor union • Organizers *unionized* the staff. • *unionized* workers/industries

— **union·i·za·tion** also *Brit union·i·sa·tion* /,ju:njənə'zeɪʃən, *Brit* ,ju:njənɪ'zeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] • the *unionization* of factory workers

Union Jack *noun*

the *Union Jack* : the national flag of the United Kingdom

union suit *noun, pl ~ suits* [*count*] *US* : underwear usually for men that covers the body, legs, and arms, and that has buttons down the front

unique /ju'ni:k/ *adj*

1 — used to say that something or someone is unlike anything or anyone else • The shape of each and every snowflake is *unique*. • His talents make him truly *unique*.

2 [*more ~; most ~*] : very special or unusual • a *unique* opportunity • a *unique* feature/characteristic • She's in the *unique* position of running for office against her husband. • Humans are *unique* among mammals in several respects.

3 : belonging to or connected with only one particular thing, place, or person — + *to* • a species *unique to* the region • These problems are not *unique to* our city. [=these problems occur in other places and not only in our city]

— **unique·ly** *adv* • a *uniquely* American tradition • Her sense of humor is *uniquely* her own. • He is *uniquely* suited to lead this company. — **unique·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

uni·sex /'ju:nə'seks/ *adj, always used before a noun* : designed for or used by both men and women • *unisex* clothing • a *unisex* hair salon

uni·son /'ju:nəsən/ *noun*

in unison ✧ If people do something *in unison*, they do it together at the same time. • singing/playing *in unison* • The children recited the alphabet *in unison*. If people *work in unison*, they work together to achieve something. • Local residents and police are *working in unison* to make the neighborhood safer.

unit /'ju:nət/ *noun, pl units* [*count*]

1 : a single thing, person, or group that is a part of something larger • The family is the basic *unit* of society. • The search party broke up into smaller *units*. • Their army *unit* guarded the border.

2 : a part of a hospital where a particular type of care is provided • the intensive care *unit* • a trauma *unit*

3 : a particular amount of length, time, money, etc., that is used as a standard for counting or measuring • Feet and meters are *units* of length. • *units* of measurement • The dollar is the principal *unit* of American currency.

4 : a part of a school course or textbook with a particular subject • Our class is finishing up the *unit* on World War I.

5 *US, education* : an amount of work used for measuring a student's progress towards earning a degree in a school, college, etc. • Each *unit* of credit represents 120 classroom hours.

6 *business* : an individual item of one of the products that a company makes and sells • Last year the company sold 200,000 *units* of that particular model of car.

7 : a machine or part of a machine or system that has a particular use • an air-conditioning *unit* • a portable/handheld *unit* • the computer's *central processing unit*

8 : one of a number of apartments in a building • The building is divided into eight *units*.

9 : a set of similar pieces of furniture (such as shelves or cabinets) that are grouped or attached together • a built-in storage/wall *unit* • (*chiefly Brit*) a *kitchen unit* [=a set of kitchen cabinets and appliances]

Uni·tar·i·an Uni·ver·sal·ist /,ju:nə'terɪjən,ju:nə'vəsəlɪst/ *noun, pl ~ -ists* [*count*] : a person who belongs to a religion that allows its members to freely choose their own reli-

gious beliefs and that supports liberal social action — abbr. *UU*

— **Unitarian Uni·ver·sal·ism** /-,ju:nə'vəsə,lɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] — **Unitarian Universalist** *adj*

uni·tary /'ju:nə'teri, *Brit* 'ju:nə'tri/ *adj, formal* : relating to or forming a single unit • the formation of a *unitary* state

unite /ju'nait/ *verb unites; unit·ed; unit·ing*

1 : to join together to do or achieve something [*no obj*] Party members *united* in support of their candidate. • Students *united* to protest the tuition increase. • *uniting* against a common enemy [*+ obj*] The struggle to end slavery *united* rich and poor. — often used as (*be*) *united* • We were all *united* by a common purpose.

2 a [*+ obj*] : to cause (two or more people or things) to be joined together and become one thing • A treaty *united* the independent nations. • They were *united* in marriage [=they were married] on Sunday, August 24. **b** [*no obj*] : to become joined together as one thing • The sperm and egg *unite* to form an embryo.

united *adj*

1 : involving people or groups working together to achieve something • a *united* campaign against drug abuse

2 : made up of members who share the same purpose, interest, etc. • a *united* Europe • a *united* family • The party must present a *united front* on these issues. [=all party members must show agreement about these issues] — often used in the names of countries and organizations • the *United States* of America • the *United Methodist Church*

United Nations *noun*

the *United Nations* : an international organization that helps to solve world conflicts peacefully — abbr. *UN* or *U.N.*

unit trust *noun, pl ~ trusts* [*count*] *Brit* : MUTUAL FUND

uni·ty /'ju:nəti/ *noun*

1 : the state of being in full agreement : HARMONY [*noncount*] political *unity* • a sense of national *unity* [*singular*] They have dealt with this issue with an impressive *unity* of purpose. [=they have joined together and shared the same purpose in dealing with this issue]

2 [*noncount*] : a way of combining the parts in a work of art or literature so that they seem to belong together • His paintings lack *unity*.

Univ. *abbr* University

uni·ver·sal /,ju:nə'vəsəl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 : done or experienced by everyone • *universal* human emotions • an idea with *universal* appeal/acceptance : existing or available for everyone • *universal* health care • *universal* suffrage [=the right for all adults in a country to vote]

2 : existing or true at all times or in all places • *universal* truths/laws • a pattern that is *universal* across all cultures

— **uni·ver·sal·i·ty** /,ju:nəvəsə'ləti/ *noun* [*noncount*] — **uni·ver·sal·ly** *adv* • a *universally* recognized/accepted truth

uni·verse /'ju:nə,vəs/ *noun, pl -verses*

1 the *universe* : all of space and everything in it including stars, planets, galaxies, etc. • How many stars are there in the *universe*? • It means more to me than anything else in the entire/whole *universe*.

2 [*count*] : an area of space or a world that is similar to but separate from the one that we live in • She is convinced that parallel/alternate *universes* exist. • He creates his own *universe* in his novels.

3 [*singular*] : the people, places, experiences, etc., that are associated with a particular person, place, or thing • The college campus is its own little *universe*. [=world] • Her young son is the *center of her universe*. [=the most important part of her life] • New York City is the *center of the publishing universe*.

uni·ver·si·ty /,ju:nə'vəsəti/ *noun, pl -ties* : a school that offers courses leading to a degree (such as a bachelor's, master's, or doctoral degree) and where research is done [*count*] I applied to several public/private *universities*. • the *University* of Michigan • *Harvard University* • He lives near the *university*. [*noncount*] *university* students/professors • (*Brit*) Did she go to *university*? [=did she study at a university?] • (*Brit*) She studied chemistry at *university*. — abbr. *U.*, *Univ.*; compare COLLEGE; see also STATE UNIVERSITY

un·just /,ʌn'dʒʌst/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *formal* : not fair or deserved : not just • The convict received an *unjust* sentence. — **un·just·ly** *adv* • She was *unjustly* accused of fraud.

un·jus·ti·fi·able /,ʌn'dʒʌstə,fəjəbəl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : not able to be defended, excused, or accepted : not justifi-

able • an *unjustifiable* expense • Their actions were *unjustifiable*.

— **un-jus-ti-fi-ably** /ˌʌnˈdʒʌstəˌfajəbli/ *adv* • *unjustifiably* high prices

un-jus-ti-fied /ˌʌnˈdʒʌstəˌfaɪd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : unnecessary and not right or fair : not justified • The shooting of the unarmed suspect was *unjustified*.

un-kempt /ˌʌnˈkempt/ *adj* : not neat or orderly : messy or untidy • an *unkempt* lawn • She wore rumpled clothing and her hair was *unkempt*.

un-kind /ˌʌnˈkaɪnd/ *adj* **un-kind-er; -est** [also more ~; most ~] : not friendly, pleasant, helpful, etc. : not kind • an *unkind* remark • *unkind* treatment • It was *unkind* of you not to invite her. • How could you be so *unkind*? — often + *to* • He was *unkind to* her. [=he treated her harshly/badly] • Fate was *unkind to* them. [=they were unlucky]

— **un-kind-ly** *adv* • He was treated *unkindly*. • Judges tend to *look unkindly on/upon* [=disapprove of] repeat offenders. • She said, *not unkindly*, that I might benefit from some lessons. — **un-kind-ness** /ˌʌnˈkaɪndnəs/ *noun* [noncount]

un-know-able /ˌʌnˈnəʊəbəl/ *adj* : not able to be known : not knowable • a God whose nature is unknown and *unknowable*

un-know-ing /ˌʌnˈnəʊɪŋ/ *adj*, always used before a noun : not aware of what is really happening • She became an *unknowing* [=unwitting] accomplice to the crime.

— **un-know-ing-ly** /ˌʌnˈnəʊɪŋli/ *adv* • He had *unknowingly* infected others with the virus.

¹**un-known** /ˌʌnˈnəʊn/ *adj*

1 : not known • a disease of *unknown* cause/origin • Much remains *unknown* about his early life. • Her music was previously *unknown* outside of Asia. • An *unknown* number of cases go unreported. • The victim's attacker was *unknown* to her. • *For some unknown reason*, my computer crashed.

2 : not well-known : not famous • an *unknown* artist/writer • a book of *unknown* poems

unknown quantity see QUANTITY

unknown to : without being known about by (someone) • *Unknown to* me, my partner was organizing a surprise party for my birthday.

²**unknown** *noun, pl -knowns*

1 *the unknown* : a place, situation, or thing that you do not know about or understand • explorers venturing off into *the unknown* • A *fear of the unknown* kept her from changing jobs.

2 [count] : a person who is not famous or well-known • The director cast an *unknown* in the lead role.

3 [count] : something that is not known or not yet discovered • We're facing too many *unknowns*. • (chiefly US) The *big unknown* [=the important thing that everyone would like to know] is how investors will react.

4 [count] *mathematics* : a quantity that is not known and that is usually shown in equations as a letter (such as *x*, *y*, or *z*)

un-lace /ˌʌnˈleɪs/ *verb* **-lac-es; -laced; -lac-ing** [+ *obj*] : to loosen or pull out the laces of (a shoe, boot, etc.) • She *unlaced* her boots.

un-latch /ˌʌnˈlætʃ/ *verb* **-latch-es; -latched; -latch-ing** [+ *obj*] : to open or loosen (something, such as a door) by lifting a latch • I *unlatched* the gate.

un-law-ful /ˌʌnˈlɑːfəl/ *adj*, formal : not allowed by the law : ILLEGAL • The sale of alcohol to minors is *unlawful*. • an *unlawful* search

— **un-law-ful-ly** *adv*

un-lead-ed /ˌʌnˈledəd/ *adj* : not containing lead • *unleaded* gasoline — opposite LEADED

un-learn /ˌʌnˈlɜːn/ *verb* **-learns; -learned; -learn-ing** [+ *obj*] : to forget and stop doing (something, such as a habit) in a deliberate way because it is bad or incorrect • It is hard to *unlearn* bad habits.

un-learned *adj*

1 /ˌʌnˈlɜːnd/ — used to describe a type of behavior that is natural and does not have to be learned • Breathing is *unlearned* behavior.

2 /ˌʌnˈlɜːnəd/ *formal* : having or showing very little learning, education, or knowledge • the *unlearned* masses

un-leash /ˌʌnˈliːʃ/ *verb* **-leash-es; -leashed; -leash-ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to allow or cause (something very powerful) to happen suddenly • The storm *unleashed* its fury. • The editorial *unleashed* a torrent/flood of angry responses.

2 : to remove a leash from (an animal) so that it can freely

run, attack someone, etc. • They *unleashed* the hounds.

un-leav-ened /ˌʌnˈlevənd/ *adj*, of bread : flat because of being made without yeast, baking powder, etc. : not leavened • *unleavened* bread

un-less /ənˈles/ *conj* — used to say what will happen, be done, or be true if something else does not happen, is not done, or is not true • He will fail the course *unless* he gets a 90 on the exam. • *Unless* something is done, the species will become extinct. • I won't have an operation *unless* surgery is absolutely necessary. [=I will only have an operation if surgery is absolutely necessary] • “Will I have to pay?” “*Not unless* [=only if] you want to.”

un-let-tered /ˌʌnˈletəd/ *adj*, formal + literary : unable to read or write : ILLITERATE • *unlettered* peasants

un-li-censed /ˌʌnˈlaɪnsəd/ *adj* : not having an official document giving you permission to do, own, or make something • *unlicensed* drivers • *unlicensed* software [=a copy of a computer program made without getting permission from the original producer of the software]

un-lik-able (chiefly US) or chiefly Brit **un-like-able** /ˌʌnˈlaɪkəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not easy to like : not having pleasant or appealing qualities : not likable • He's an arrogant, *unlikable* man.

¹**un-like** /ˌʌnˈlaɪk/ *prep*

1 : different from (something or someone) • The plants that grow here are *unlike* the plants that grow where I live. • She's *unlike* anyone I've ever met. • Its texture is *not unlike* [=similar to] that of oatmeal.

2 : not typical of (someone) : not normal for (someone) • It was *unlike* her to be late. [=it was unusual for her to be late] • That's *unlike* him.

3 — used to indicate how someone or something is different from other people or things • *Unlike* most mammals, the platypus lays eggs. • A cold, *unlike* strep throat, is caused by a virus.

²**unlike** *adj*, somewhat formal : not similar : DIFFERENT • a comparison of *unlike* things

un-like-li-hood /ˌʌnˈlaɪkliˌhʊd/ *noun* [noncount] : the chance that something will not happen or not be true : the quality or state of being unlikely • Given the *unlikelihood* of a tax increase, these programs will probably run out of funding next year.

un-like-ly /ˌʌnˈlaɪkli/ *adj* **un-like-li-er; -est** [or more ~; most ~]

1 : not likely — used to say that something probably will not happen or is not true • It is *unlikely* that the company will survive more than another year. • That explanation is *unlikely* to be true. • an *unlikely* story [=a story that is hard to believe] • Her recovery is *unlikely*. = It is *unlikely* that she will recover. = She is *unlikely* to recover. • In the *unlikely event that* I win the lottery, I will pay off the mortgage.

2 *always used before a noun* : not seeming to be right or suited for a purpose • He was an *unlikely* candidate for the position. • A big city seems like an *unlikely* place to find wildlife. • I received support from an *unlikely* ally. • an *unlikely* combination

un-lim-it-ed /ˌʌnˈlɪmətəd/ *adj*

1 : without any limits or restrictions • Membership gives you *unlimited* access to the facilities. • A ruler who is granted *unlimited* [=limitless] power is sure to abuse it. • This ticket is good for *unlimited* travel on all trains.

2 : not limited in number or amount • This plan allows you to make an *unlimited* number of phone calls to anywhere in the U.S. • Her funds seem to be *unlimited*.

un-lined /ˌʌnˈlaɪnd/ *adj*

1 : not marked with lines • *unlined* paper • his smooth, *unlined* face

2 : not having a lining • an *unlined* jacket

un-list-ed /ˌʌnˈlɪstəd/ *adj*

1 : not appearing on an official list • There's an *unlisted* bonus track on the CD; *especially, chiefly* US : not appearing in a telephone book • She has an *unlisted* [= (Brit) *ex-directory*] phone number.

2 : not included in the list of companies whose stocks are sold on a particular stock exchange • He is buying shares in an *unlisted* company.

un-lis-ten-able /ˌʌnˈlɪsnəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : impossible to listen to and enjoy • I find his music (to be) *unlistenable*.

un-lit /ˌʌnˈlɪt/ *adj*

1 : not having any light shining so you can see • an *unlit* [=dark] room

2 : not burning : not lit • an *unlit* cigarette • an *unlit* burner

3 : not turned on to provide light • an *unlit* neon sign

un·load /ˌʌnˈləʊd/ *verb* -loads; -load·ed; -load·ing

1 : to remove something (such as cargo) from a truck, ship, etc. [+ *obj*] It took four hours to *unload* the truck. • Could you help me *unload* the car? • After the ship docked, they *unloaded* its cargo. • I have to *unload* the groceries. [*no obj*] Most ships *unload* at another dock now.

2 [+ *obj*] : to allow (someone) to leave a train, ship, etc. • The train made several stops to *unload* passengers.

3 [+ *obj*] *informal* : to get rid of (something or someone) quickly • He's trying to *unload* [=sell] his old car. • Rumor has it that the manager wants to *unload* him. Maybe he'll be traded to another team. • She *unloaded* a huge amount of stock when prices fell.

4 [+ *obj*] **a** : to take something out of a device • Could you show me how to *unload* film (from the camera)? • *unload* a camera [=take film out of a camera] • *unload* a gun [=remove the bullets from a gun] • He *unloaded* the dishwasher and put away the dishes. **b** *informal* : to fire (bullets) from a weapon • He *unloaded* [=shot] several rounds from the gun.

5 [*no obj*] *informal* : to talk about something that has been bothering or troubling you • I really need to *unload*. Do you have a few minutes?

6 [*no obj*] *US, informal* **a** : to express a strong feeling (such as anger) in a very forceful way — + *on* • The coach really *unloaded on* [=yelled at] the players after the game. **b** : to hit someone or something very forcefully — usually + *on* • He *unloaded on* the pitch and drove it over the right field wall.

un·lock /ˌʌnˈlɒk/ *verb* -locks; -locked; -lock·ing [+ *obj*]

1 : to open the lock on (something) • Could you *unlock* the door for me? • He *unlocked* the car.

2 : to find out about (something that was secret or unknown) : REVEAL • geneticists *unlocking* the secrets of DNA • The material's potential was *unlocked* only through extensive testing.

3 : to make (something) available for use • How can I *unlock* my computer if I've forgotten the password? • This class will *unlock* your creativity.

— *unlocked* *adj* • Is the car *unlocked*? • Leave the door *unlocked*.

un·looked-for /ˌʌnˈlʊkt,fɔː/ *adj, formal* : not expected • an *unlooked-for* bonus

un·loose /ˌʌnˈluːs/ *verb* -loos·es; -loosed; -loos·ing [+ *obj*] *literary*

1 : to untie or release (something) • He *unloosed* the bonds that held her.

2 : to allow or cause (something powerful) to happen or be expressed • The court's decision has *unloosed* [=let loose] a flood of criticism.

un·loos·en /ˌʌnˈluːsɪn/ *verb* -ens; -ened; -en·ing [+ *obj*] : to make (something) loose : to untie (something) • He *unloosened* [=loosened] his tie.

un·lov·able /ˌʌnˈlʌvəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not having attractive or appealing qualities : not lovable • She was totally *unlovable*. • an *unlovable* character

un·loved /ˌʌnˈlʌvd/ *adj* : not loved by anyone • She is alone and *unloved*.

un·love·ly /ˌʌnˈlʌvli/ *adj* **un·love·li·er**; -est [*or more* ~; *most* ~] *literary* : not attractive : UGLY • an *unlovely* name

un·lov·ing /ˌʌnˈlʌvɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not feeling or showing love • *unloving* parents

un·luck·i·ly /ˌʌnˈlʌkəli/ *adv* : UNFORTUNATELY • *Unluckily* for her, it rained that day.

un·lucky /ˌʌnˈlʌki/ *adj* **un·luck·i·er**; -est [*also more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : having bad luck • She was *unlucky* enough to get a flat tire on the way to her job interview. • He's been *unlucky in love*. [=he has had a series of bad romantic relationships]

2 : causing bad luck • Some people think that 13 is an *unlucky* number. • He thinks it's *unlucky* to have a black cat cross your path.

3 : resulting from bad luck • an *unlucky* accident

un·made /ˌʌnˈmeɪd/ *adj*

1 — used to describe a bed that looks untidy because it has been slept in and its blankets and sheets have not been neatly arranged to cover the mattress • an *unmade* bed

2 *Brit* : not covered with a hard, smooth surface • an *unmade* [= (US) *unpaved*] road

un·man·age·able /ˌʌnˈmæɪnɪdʒəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : difficult to deal with or control • *unmanageable* children •

unmanageable hair • His debt has become *unmanageable*.

— **un·man·age·ably** /ˌʌnˈmæɪnɪdʒəbli/ *adv* • an *unmanageably* large mortgage

un·man·ly /ˌʌnˈmænli/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *disapproving* : not typical of a man or suitable for a man : not manly • He felt *unmanly* because he wasn't interested in sports. • I disagree that dancing is an *unmanly* pursuit. • My father told me that it's *unmanly* to cry.

un·manned /ˌʌnˈmænd/ *adj* : not carrying or done by a person • an *unmanned* spacecraft • *unmanned* missions to Venus • *unmanned* flights/stations

un·marked /ˌʌnˈmɑːkt/ *adj* : not having any marks or signs that show what something is • *unmarked* police cars • He is buried in an *unmarked* grave.

un·mar·ried /ˌʌnˈmerɪd/ *adj* : not married • an *unmarried* couple who are living together • an *unmarried* [=single] man/woman

un·mask /ˌʌnˈmæsk, *Brit* ˌʌnˈmɑːsk/ *verb* -masks; -masked; -mask·ing [+ *obj*] : to reveal the true identity or nature of (someone or something) • He was *unmasked* as a spy.

un·matched /ˌʌnˈmætʃd/ *adj*

1 : better than all others • The company has a level of expertise that is *unmatched* (anywhere) in the industry. • *unmatched* quality • Her talents are *unmatched* [=not matched] by any other player.

2 *chiefly US* : not properly matched with something else • He was wearing *unmatched* socks. [=socks that were not the same type, color, etc.]

un·mem·o·ra·ble /ˌʌnˈmemərəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : plain or ordinary : not memorable • It's been an *unmemorable* year. • The food was decent, but *unmemorable*.

un·men·tion·able /ˌʌnˈmenʃənəbəl/ *adj* : too offensive, shocking, or embarrassing to talk about or mention • There are certain topics that are considered to be *unmentionable*. • *unmentionable* words

un·men·tion·ables /ˌʌnˈmenʃənəblz/ *noun* [*plural*] *some-what old-fashioned + humorous* : UNDERWEAR • I won't hang my *unmentionables* out on the clothesline to dry!

un·mer·ci·ful /ˌʌnˈmɜːsɪfəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not having or showing any mercy : very harsh or cruel : MERCILESS • an *unmerciful* attack • *unmerciful* critics

— **un·mer·ci·ful·ly** /ˌʌnˈmɜːsɪfli/ *adv* • They taunted him *unmercifully*.

un·met /ˌʌnˈmet/ *adj* : not satisfied or fulfilled • *unmet* expectations • Her needs went *unmet* for years.

un·mind·ful /ˌʌnˈmaɪndfəl/ *adj* : not aware of something that might be important — often + *of* or *that* • He was *unmindful of* the possible consequences of his decision. • He complained loudly about his boss, *unmindful that* she was standing nearby.

un·mis·tak·able /ˌʌnməˈsteɪkəbəl/ *adj* : not capable of being mistaken or misunderstood • The evidence is *unmistakable*. • an *unmistakable* odor

— **un·mis·tak·ably** /ˌʌnməˈsteɪkəbli/ *adv* • Her art is *unmistakably* modern.

un·mit·i·gat·ed /ˌʌnˈmɪtəˌgeɪtəd/ *adj, always used before a noun* : complete and total — usually used to describe something bad • The party was an *unmitigated* disaster. • She had the *unmitigated* gall to suggest that it was all my fault.

un·mo·ti·vat·ed /ˌʌnˈmoutəˌveɪtəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having no desire to do or succeed at something : not motivated • How can I get *unmotivated* students to do their homework? • I am/feel totally *unmotivated* to work today.

un·moved /ˌʌnˈmuːvd/ *adj* : not feeling pity, sympathy, or admiration for someone or something : not emotionally affected by something • He was *unmoved* by their pleas.

un·named /ˌʌnˈneɪmd/ *adj*

1 — used to indicate that a person's name is not mentioned or known • The article quoted an *unnamed* source/official. • She is believed to be one of the three *unnamed* candidates being considered for the position.

2 : not having a name • The map shows an *unnamed* stream flowing down the side of the hill.

un·nat·u·ral /ˌʌnˈnætʃərəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not natural: such as **a** : different from how things usually are in the physical world or in nature • It seems *unnatural* to keep the bird in a cage. • an *unnatural* color • deaths from *unnatural causes* [=deaths caused by things other than old age or disease] **b** : different from what is normal in a way that is seen as wrong, disturbing, etc. • He thought that it was *unnatural*

[=abnormal] for a boy to enjoy ballet. • She has an *unnatural* obsession with money. **C** : not real • Her smile looked forced and *unnatural*. • The movie's dialogue sounded so *unnatural* [=fake] to me.

– **un·nat·u·ral·ly** *adv* • *unnaturally* high levels of cholesterol • grew to an *unnaturally* large size

un·nec·es·sary /ˌʌnˈnesəˌseri, Brit ˌʌnˈnesəsəri/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not needed or necessary • In this city, owning a car is *unnecessary*. • an *unnecessary* delay • Let's not take any *unnecessary* risks.

– **un·nec·es·sar·i·ly** /ˌʌnˈnesəˌserəli, Brit ˌʌnˈnesəsəri/ *adv* • I think the punishment you gave her was *unnecessarily* harsh. • These new rules are *unnecessarily* complex.

un·nerve /ˌʌnˈnɜv/ *verb* -nerves; -nerved; -nerv·ing [+ *obj*] *somewhat formal* : to make (someone) feel afraid or upset and unable to think clearly • Seeing the police in there *unnerved* me. • She was *unnerved* by his strange manner.

– **unnerving** *adj* [more ~; most ~] • I had an *unnerving* encounter with her yesterday. • The news of my brother's accident was *unnerving*. – **un·nerv·ing·ly** /ˌʌnˈnɜvɪŋli/ *adv* • The neighborhood was *unnervingly* quiet.

un·no·ticed /ˌʌnˈnotəst/ *adj* : not seen or noticed • He walked into the restaurant *unnoticed*. • His efforts *went* (largely) *unnoticed*.

un·num·bered /ˌʌnˈnʌmbəd/ *adj* : not identified with a number • an *unnumbered* page • That highway has *unnumbered* exits. • driving along *unnumbered* roads

un·ob·jec·tion·able /ˌʌnəbˈdʒɛkʃənəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not likely to bother or offend anyone : not objectionable • The practice is seen as perfectly *unobjectionable*.

un·ob·served /ˌʌnəbˈzəvd/ *adj* : not seen or noticed • The fire went *unobserved* for several minutes. • an *unobserved* problem

un·ob·tain·able /ˌʌnəbˈteɪnəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not possible to get or achieve • an *unobtainable* outcome • The championship seemed *unobtainable*.

un·ob·tru·sive /ˌʌnəbˈtruːsɪv/ *adj* : not attracting attention in a way that bothers you • an *unobtrusive* waiter • *unobtrusive* advertising

– **un·ob·tru·sive·ly** *adv* • He was sitting *unobtrusively* in a corner.

un·oc·cu·pied /ˌʌnˈɑːkjəˌpaɪd/ *adj* : not being used, filled up, or lived in : **EMPTY** • an *unoccupied* house • About half of the seats were *unoccupied* when the concert started. • A third of the beds at the hospital were *unoccupied*.

un·of·fi·cial /ˌʌnəˈfɪʃəl/ *adj* : not official: such as **a** : not formally chosen by an official decision or vote • The song is the college's *unofficial* anthem. • She was the group's *unofficial* leader. **b** : not done or made in a formal way by someone in a position of authority • *Unofficial* estimates of the number of people killed in the earthquake range from 3,000 to 5,000. • I am including an *unofficial* translation of the speech. **c** : not having the authority to make a statement, decision, etc. • According to *unofficial* sources, the decision will be appealed. **d** : not done in a public and formal way as part of someone's job • The mayor paid an *unofficial* visit to the hospital.

– **un·of·fi·cial·ly** *adv* • His name is Bob, but he's *unofficially* known as "Doc."

un·opened /ˌʌnˈoʊpənd/ *adj* : not opened • There was a pile of *unopened* mail on the table. • The letter was *unopened*.

un·op·posed /ˌʌnəˈpoʊzd/ *adj* : not having any competition in an election, contest, etc. : not opposed • The mayor is running *unopposed* for reelection.

un·or·ga·nized *also* Brit **un·or·ga·nised** /ˌʌnˈoʊɡəˌnaɪzd/ *adj*

1 : not arranged in an orderly way • boxes of *unorganized* photos

2 : not part of a formal organization (such as a labor union) • These industries usually employ *unorganized* workers.

un·orig·i·nal /ˌʌnəˈrɪdʒənəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not new or different • an *unoriginal* idea • The movie was completely *unoriginal*. : not able to think of or make new and creative things • an *unoriginal* thinker

– **un·orig·i·nal·i·ty** /ˌʌnəˈrɪdʒəˌnæləti/ *noun* [noncount] • I was disappointed by the *unoriginality* of the book's plot.

un·or·tho·dox /ˌʌnˈoʊθəˌdɑːks/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : different from what is usually done or accepted • She's known for using *unorthodox* [=unconventional] methods to achieve her goals. • *unorthodox* views/opinions/beliefs

un·pack /ˌʌnˈpæk/ *verb* -packs; -packed; -pack·ing

1 : to take something out of a suitcase, box, etc. [+ *obj*] It's been a year since I moved here and I still haven't *unpacked* all of my books. • I *unpacked* my suitcase as soon as I arrived home. • I *unpacked* all my clothes (from my suitcase) as soon as I arrived home. [no *obj*] By the time we got to the hotel, I was too tired to *unpack*.

2 [+ *obj*] : to make (something) easier to understand by breaking it up into smaller parts that can be examined separately • She's good at *unpacking* complex concepts.

un·paid /ˌʌnˈpeɪd/ *adj*

1 : needing to be paid • I have a pile of *unpaid* bills sitting on my desk. • The city is trying to collect *unpaid* taxes. • debts left *unpaid*

2 : done or taken without payment • She took three months of *unpaid* leave from her job.

3 : not receiving money for work that is done • I served as an *unpaid* consultant on the project. • *unpaid* labor

un·par·al·leled /ˌʌnˈperəˌleɪd/ *adj, formal*

1 : not found elsewhere : never seen or experienced before : **UNIQUE** • War crimes of this type are *unparalleled* in history. • The new telescope offers an *unparalleled* opportunity to conduct research.

2 : having no equal : better or greater than anyone or anything else • Her knowledge of the subject is *unparalleled*.

un·par·don·able /ˌʌnˈpɑːdnəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *formal* : too bad to be forgiven • *unpardonable* offenses • an *unpardonable* sin

un·pa·tri·ot·ic /ˌʌnˌpeɪtriˈɑːtɪk, Brit ˌʌnˌpætriˈɒtɪk/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not having or showing love and support for your country : not patriotic • Her actions were seen as *unpatriotic*.

un·paved /ˌʌnˈpeɪvd/ *adj, chiefly US* : not covered with a hard, smooth surface : not paved • *unpaved* roads/streets/highways

un·per·sua·sive /ˌʌnpəˈsweɪsɪv/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not able to make you agree that something is true, real, or acceptable : not persuasive • I find your reasoning to be *unpersuasive*. • an *unpersuasive* argument

– **un·per·sua·sive·ly** *adv*

un·per·turbed /ˌʌnpəˈtɜːbd/ *adj* : calm and relaxed : not upset or worried • She was *unperturbed* by the sudden change in plan.

un·planned /ˌʌnˈplænd/ *adj* : not planned or expected • an *unplanned* pregnancy • *unplanned* purchases

un·play·able /ˌʌnˈpleɪəbəl/ *adj* : not able to be played, played on, or played with • The game was canceled due to *unplayable* conditions on the field. • A broken string made the guitar *unplayable*. • an *unplayable* DVD • The golf ball was in an *unplayable* lie.

un·pleas·ant /ˌʌnˈpleɪzənt/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : not pleasant or enjoyable : causing discomfort or pain • I stopped taking the drug because of its *unpleasant* side effects. • There was an *unpleasant* smell/odor coming from the basement. • The weather is so *unpleasant* here.

2 : not friendly • I like the shop, but the staff are so *unpleasant*.

– **un·pleas·ant·ly** *adv* • I was *unpleasantly* surprised to discover that I couldn't find my keys. • The juice was *unpleasantly* sour. • Our vacation started *unpleasantly* with long delays and bad weather. – **un·pleas·ant·ness** *noun* [noncount] • I left because I wanted to avoid any potential *unpleasantness*.

un·plug /ˌʌnˈplʌɡ/ *verb* -plugs; -plugged; -plug·ing [+ *obj*] : to disconnect (something, such as a lamp or television) from an electrical source or another device by removing its plug • *Unplug* the iron. • I forgot to *unplug* my guitar from the amp.

un·plugged /ˌʌnˈplʌɡd/ *adj, informal* : sung or performed without electrical instruments • The band's latest album was *unplugged*. • He did an *unplugged* [=acoustic] number for the encore.

un·pol·lut·ed /ˌʌnpəˈluːtəd/ *adj* : clean and safe for use : not polluted • *unpolluted* streams and lakes

un·pop·u·lar /ˌʌnˈpɑːpjələ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : not liked by many people : not popular • I was *unpopular* in high school. • Her third album has been *unpopular* with fans. • Recent conflicts have made him *unpopular* among the staff.

2 : not shared by most people • He has *unpopular* opinions/views.

– **un·pop·u·lar·i·ty** /ˌʌnˌpɑːpjəˌlerəti/ *noun* [noncount]

un·prec·e·dent·ed /ˌʌnˈpresəˌdɛntəd/ *adj* : not done or

experienced before • The team has enjoyed *unprecedented* success this year. • This level of growth is *unprecedented*. • An *unprecedented* number of students are taking the class.

un·pre·dict·able /ˌʌnpriˈdɪktəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not predictable; such as **a** : not capable of being known before happening or being done • The weather has been completely *unpredictable* lately. • *unpredictable* results/behavior **b** : not always behaving in a way that is expected • He's very *unpredictable*. We never know what he'll do next.

– **un·pre·dict·abil·i·ty** /ˌʌnpriˈdɪktəˈbɪləti/ *noun* [noncount] • the *unpredictability* of the stock market – **un·pre·dict·ably** /ˌʌnpriˈdɪktəbli/ *adv* • Illness can cause people to behave *unpredictably*.

un·prej·u·diced /ˌʌnpredʒədɪst/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not having or showing an unfair feeling of dislike for a particular person, group, etc. : not prejudiced • an *unprejudiced* jury • an *unprejudiced* [=unbiased] analysis of the problem

un·pre·pared /ˌʌnpriˈpeəd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not ready to deal with something : not prepared • She was *unprepared* for the test. • This will teach you how to avoid being caught *unprepared*. • We were *unprepared* to handle the crowds.

– **un·pre·pared·ness** /ˌʌnpriˈperədnes/ *noun* [noncount]

un·pre·ten·tious /ˌʌnpriˈtenʃəs/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not having or showing the unpleasant quality of people who want to be regarded as more impressive, successful, or important than they really are : not pretentious • He's easy-going and *unpretentious*. • a casual and *unpretentious* restaurant

– **un·pre·ten·tious·ly** *adv* – **un·pre·ten·tious·ness** *noun* [noncount] • I found her *unpretentiousness* to be refreshing.

un·prin·ci·pled /ˌʌnpriˈnsəpəld/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not having or showing concern for what is right • an *unprincipled* politician • a dishonest and *unprincipled* attack on his reputation

un·print·able /ˌʌnpriˈntəbəl/ *adj*

1 : too offensive or shocking to be printed or published • *unprintable* words • I can't tell you what he said because it's *unprintable*.

2 : unable to be printed • Does the file contain any *unprintable* characters?

un·pro·duc·tive /ˌʌnpɹəˈdʌktɪv/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not giving good, steady, or useful results : not productive • The talks were *unproductive*. • It's *unproductive* to waste time arguing.

– **un·pro·duc·tive·ly** *adv* • Our time was spent *unproductively*.

un·pro·fes·sion·al /ˌʌnpɹəˈfeʃənəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not having or showing the experience, skill, etc., that is expected or appropriate in a person who is trained to do a job well • She was accused of *unprofessional* conduct. • He ran the firm in an *unprofessional* manner. • Typos look very *unprofessional*.

– **un·pro·fes·sion·al·ism** /ˌʌnpɹəˈfeʃənəˌlɪzəm/ *noun* [noncount] • He was criticized for his *unprofessionalism*.

– **un·pro·fes·sion·al·ly** /ˌʌnpɹəˈfeʃənəli/ *adv* • She acted *unprofessionally*.

un·prof·it·able /ˌʌnpɹɑːfətəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : not making money • an *unprofitable* company

2 : not producing good or helpful results or effects • an *unprofitable* discussion

un·prom·is·ing /ˌʌnpɹɑːməsɪŋ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not likely to be successful or good • Things got off to an *unpromising* start. • She can do a lot with *unpromising* material.

un·promp·ted /ˌʌnpɹɑːmptəd/ *adj* : done or said by someone who has not been asked or reminded to do or say anything • He gave her an *unprompted* offer to help. • His answers were *unprompted*.

un·pro·nounce·able /ˌʌnpɹəˈnaʊnsəbəl/ *adj* : impossible or very difficult to say • She has an *unpronounceable* name.

un·pro·tect·ed /ˌʌnpɹəˈtektəd/ *adj*

1 : not guarded or kept from something that can cause harm or damage • They're planning to build roads over thousands of acres of *unprotected* land/wilderness. • If your computer is *unprotected*, you're likely to get a virus.

2 of sexual activity : done without using anything (such as a condom) that can prevent unwanted pregnancy or the spread of disease (such as AIDS) • They had *unprotected* [=unsafe] sex.

un·prov·able /ˌʌnpɹuːvəbəl/ *adj* : not able to be proved or

shown to be true • Your theory is *unprovable*. • an *unprovable* claim/assertion

un·proved /ˌʌnpɹuːvd/ *adj* : UNPROVEN • His abilities are still *unproved*.

un·prov·en /ˌʌnpɹuːvən/ *adj* : not tested and shown to be true, good, or useful • scientifically *unproven* treatments/therapies • So much in science still remains *unproven*. • He's an *unproven* rookie. [=a rookie who has not yet shown that he can perform well]

un·pub·lished /ˌʌnpʌblɪʃt/ *adj*

1 : not prepared, printed, and sold as or as part of a book, magazine, newspaper, etc. • an *unpublished* manuscript • An anthology of his *unpublished* plays is scheduled to be released next year.

2 — used to describe a writer whose works have not yet been published • an *unpublished* poet/author/playwright

un·pun·ished /ˌʌnpʌnɪʃt/ *adj* : not punished • Their crime must not be allowed to go *unpunished*.

un·qual·i·fied /ˌʌnˈkwɑːləˌfaɪd/ *adj*

1 [more ~; most ~] : not having the skills, knowledge, or experience needed to do a particular job or activity • He is clearly *unqualified* for the job. • an *unqualified* candidate • It's a judgment that you are *unqualified* to make.

2 : complete or total • You have my *unqualified* support. • The operation was an *unqualified* success. [=it was successful in every way]

un·ques·tion·able /ˌʌnˈkwɛstʃənəbəl/ *adj* : not able to be questioned or doubted • a person of *unquestionable* integrity • His influence on modern art is *unquestionable*.

un·ques·tion·ably /ˌʌnˈkwɛstʃənəbli/ *adv*

1 : in a way that is certain and not able to be doubted : CERTAINLY • This book is *unquestionably* a masterpiece. • She is *unquestionably* one of the finest writers who has ever lived. • His strong views have *unquestionably* influenced others.

2 — used to emphasize that something is definitely true • “Global warming is one of the great challenges of the 21st century.” “*Unquestionably*.” [=I agree]

un·ques·tioned /ˌʌnˈkwɛstʃənd/ *adj* : not doubted or questioned • Her honesty is *unquestioned*. [=everyone knows that she is honest]

un·ques·tion·ing /ˌʌnˈkwɛstʃənɪŋ/ *adj* : given completely and without asking questions or expressing doubt • I am truly disturbed by her *unquestioning* acceptance of authority. • He demanded *unquestioning* obedience. • *unquestioning* loyalty

– **un·ques·tion·ing·ly** *adv* • She accepted his explanation *unquestioningly*.

un·qui·et /ˌʌnˈkwajət/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *literary* : not peaceful and calm : TROUBLED • *unquiet* sleep • an *unquiet* mind • We live in *unquiet* times.

un·quote /ˌʌnˈkwout/ *noun* — used in speech with *quote* to show that you are exactly repeating someone else's words • She said that she didn't feel prepared to deal with *quote*, “the real world,” *unquote*. • He called me a *quote*, *unquote* “dirty, rotten liar.”

un·rat·ed /ˌʌnˈreɪtəd/ *adj*, US : not having a special mark (such as PG or R) which shows that a movie is appropriate for a specific audience • an *unrated* film

un·rav·el /ˌʌnˈrævəl/ *verb* -els; US -eled or Brit -elled; US -el·ing or Brit -el·ling

1 : to cause the separate threads of something to come apart [+ *obj*] *unravel* the yarn • *unravel* a rope [no *obj*] This will keep the ends of the rope from *unraveling*. [=fraying]

2 [+ *obj*] : to find the correct explanation for (something that is difficult to understand) • Scientists are still *unraveling* the secrets/mysteries of DNA.

3 [no *obj*] : to fail or begin to fail • Their plans *unraveled* when she lost her job. • His frequent absences from home caused his marriage to *unravel*. • I feel like my life is *unraveling*.

un·reach·able /ˌʌnˈriːʃəbəl/ *adj* : not reachable; such as **a** : not able to be arrived at • The island was *unreachable* by air. **b** : not able to be achieved • an *unreachable* goal **c** : not able to be found or spoken to • He was *unreachable* for weeks.

un·read /ˌʌnˈred/ *adj* : not read • an *unread* book • On her desk was a pile of magazines that had been left *unread* for months.

un·read·able /ˌʌnˈriːdəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : unable to be read or understood • Your handwriting is *unreadable*. [=illegible] • The computer file is *unreadable*. • She had an *unreadable* expression on her face.

2 : too difficult, badly written, etc., to be worth reading • an *unreadable* novel • This physics textbook is *unreadable*.

un-ready /ˌʌnˈrɛdi/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not prepared for something : not ready • Many people graduate from high school *unready* to enter college.

– **un-read-i-ness** *noun* [noncount] • a state of *unreadiness*

un-re-al /ˌʌnˈriːjəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : not real : artificial or fake • The town seemed as *unreal* as a movie set. • The fashion model looked *unreal*, like a doll.

2 *informal* : very strange or unusual • I think it's *unreal* that he survived the accident. • Some of the things I've seen around here are pretty *unreal*. [=bizarre]

3 *informal* — used to describe something that is so good, bad, etc., that it is difficult to believe • The detail in the graphics is *unreal*. [=superb] • It's *unreal* that I can access so much information on the Internet. • The pain was *unreal*.

– **un-re-al-i-ty** /ˌʌnriːæləti/ *noun* [noncount] *formal* • There was an air of *unreality* about the place. [=the place seemed unreal]

un-re-al-is-tic /ˌʌnriːjəˈlistɪk/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not realistic: such as **a** : not able to see things as they really are • an *unrealistic* person **b** : based on what is wanted or hoped for rather than on what is possible or likely : not sensible and appropriate • *unrealistic* expectations/demands • It's *unrealistic* to expect so much. **c** : not showing people and things as they are in real life • The dialogue in the movie was *unrealistic*. • an *unrealistic* scenario

– **un-re-al-is-tic-al-ly** /ˌʌnriːjəˈlistɪkli/ *adv* • You're being *unrealistically* optimistic.

un-rea-son-able /ˌʌnˈriːzənəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not fair, sensible, or appropriate : not reasonable • I told him that I wouldn't pay unless he sent me a replacement. Am I being *unreasonable*? • You are entitled to compensation for *unreasonable* delays. • *unreasonable* demands/expectations • The prices were not *unreasonable*. [=were not too high]

– **un-rea-son-ably** /ˌʌnˈriːzənəbli/ *adv* • *unreasonably* high standards • In my opinion, you acted *unreasonably*.

un-rea-son-ing /ˌʌnˈriːznɪŋ/ *adj, formal* : not based on or controlled by reason • an *unreasoning* hatred of the government • his *unreasoning* devotion to a cause

un-re-cep-tive /ˌʌnriːseptɪv/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not willing to listen to or accept ideas, suggestions, etc. • She was *unreceptive* to my ideas.

un-rec-og-niz-able *also Brit un-rec-og-nis-able* /ˌʌnˈrɛkɪɡnaɪzəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not able to be identified or recognized • After the accident, the car was completely *unrecognizable*.

un-rec-og-nized /ˌʌnˈrɛkɪɡnaɪzd/ *adj* : not recognized: such as **a** : not given deserved attention or notice • The artist's work went *unrecognized* in his lifetime. **b** : not known about • a previously *unrecognized* problem

un-re-corded /ˌʌnriːˈkɔrdəd/ *adj*

1 : not written down • The motion was passed by an *unrecorded* vote.

2 : not recorded on a record, CD, etc. • a local *unrecorded* musician

un-re-con-struct-ed /ˌʌnriːkənˈstrʌktəd/ *adj* — used to describe someone who has strongly held opinions and beliefs that have not changed even though they have been criticized or have become unpopular • He describes himself as an *unreconstructed* liberal.

un-re-fined /ˌʌnriːˈfaɪnd/ *adj*

1 : still in the natural and original state or form : not yet refined • *unrefined* oils • *unrefined* sugar • *unrefined* metal

2 [more ~; most ~] *disapproving* : not having or showing good education and manners • a crass, *unrefined* fellow • Your accent makes you sound *unrefined*.

3 [more ~; most ~] : not smooth, fine, or precise • The dashboard controls feel clunky and *unrefined*.

un-reg-is-tered /ˌʌnˈrɛdʒəstəd/ *adj* : not entered on an official list or in a system of public records : not registered • She was charged with driving an *unregistered* vehicle. • owning an *unregistered* firearm

un-reg-u-lated /ˌʌnˈrɛɡjələtəd/ *adj* : not subject to laws passed by the government about how something is done, made, processed, sold, etc. • an *unregulated* utility • Herbal supplements are *unregulated* in the U.S.

un-re-hearsed /ˌʌnriːˈhɛst/ *adj, chiefly US* : not practiced or prepared in advance • an *unrehearsed* performance • The speech was natural and *unrehearsed*.

un-re-lat-ed /ˌʌnriːˈleɪtəd/ *adj* : not related: such as **a** : not part of the same family : not having any shared ancestors •

We have the same last name, but we're *unrelated*. **b** : not connected in any way to someone or something else • His recent travel is *unrelated* to his job. • The two incidents are entirely *unrelated*.

un-re-lent-ing /ˌʌnriːˈlɛntɪŋ/ *adj*

1 : not slowing down, stopping, or growing weaker • *unrelenting* pressure • The pain is *unrelenting*. [=the pain never stops] • She has endured *unrelenting* [=relentless] criticism.

2 — used to describe someone who does something in a constant and determined way without stopping or becoming less forceful • an *unrelenting* taskmaster • She was *unrelenting* in her demands for justice.

– **un-re-lent-ing-ly** *adv* • I found the movie to be *unrelentingly* bleak.

un-re-li-able /ˌʌnriːˈlajəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : not able to be trusted to do or provide what is needed or promised • Public transportation here is *unreliable*. The buses never come on time. • an *unreliable* car [=a car that breaks down often]

2 : not believable or trustworthy • an *unreliable* witness • That report is *unreliable*.

– **un-re-li-abil-i-ty** /ˌʌnriːˈlajəˈbɪləti/ *noun* [noncount] — **un-re-li-ably** /ˌʌnriːˈlajəbli/ *adv* • The equipment performs *unreliably*.

un-re-lieved /ˌʌnriːˈliːvd/ *adj*

1 *of something unpleasant* : continuing without stopping or changing : CONSTANT • *unrelieved* pain/hostility/gloom

2 : not including anything that provides a desirable change • windowless walls *unrelieved* by even a single doorway • a grim novel *unrelieved* by any humorous touches

un-re-mark-able /ˌʌnriːˈmɑːkəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not worthy of special attention or notice : ORDINARY • I've led an *unremarkable* life. • The food was *unremarkable*.

– **un-re-mark-ably** /ˌʌnriːˈmɑːkəbli/ *adv* • The day began *unremarkably*.

un-re-mit-ting /ˌʌnriːˈmɪtɪŋ/ *adj, formal* : not stopping or growing weaker • She was recognized for her *unremitting* efforts to improve the lives of people in her city. • *unremitting* hostility/pain

– **un-re-mit-ting-ly** *adv*

un-re-peat-able /ˌʌnriːˈpiːtəbəl/ *adj*

1 : not able to be done or made again • *unrepeatable* results

2 : too rude or offensive to be said again • He made some *unrepeatable* remarks about sex.

un-re-pen-tant /ˌʌnriːˈpɛntənt/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not sorry for something wrong that you have done • an *unrepentant* sinner

– **un-re-pen-tant-ly** *adv*

un-re-port-ed /ˌʌnriːˈpɔːtəd/ *adj* : not told to someone in authority : not reported • *unreported* income • Many cases of abuse go *unreported* each year.

un-rep-re-sen-ta-tive /ˌʌnˌrɛprɪˈzɛntətɪv/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not showing what a group of people or things is truly like : not representative • The people who live here are *unrepresentative* of the population as a whole. • an *unrepresentative* sample/minority

un-re-quit-ed /ˌʌnriːˈkwɪtəd/ *adj* : not shared or returned by someone else • a song about *unrequited* love • *unrequited* passion/longing

un-re-served /ˌʌnriːˈzɜːvd/ *adj*

1 : not kept for use only by a particular person or group • Seating at the concert will be *unreserved*. • *unreserved* seating • *unreserved* funds

2 : not limited in any way • I have nothing but *unreserved* admiration for him. • (*chiefly Brit*) He offered me an *unreserved* apology.

– **un-re-serv-ed-ly** /ˌʌnriːˈzɜːvədli/ *adv*

un-re-solv-able /ˌʌnriːˈzɔːlvəbəl/ *adj* : not able to be answered or ended in a satisfying way • an *unresolvable* conflict

un-re-solved /ˌʌnriːˈzɔːlvd/ *adj* : still needing an answer, a solution, or an ending • *unresolved* issues • *unresolved* conflict

un-re-spon-sive /ˌʌnriːˈspɔːnsɪv/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : not replying or reacting to someone's question, request, demand, etc. • The mayor has been *unresponsive* to the concerns of the community. • an *unresponsive* bureaucracy

2 *medical* : not reacting or able to react in a normal way when touched, spoken to, etc. • The victim was *unresponsive* when police arrived.

– **un-re-spon-sive-ness** *noun* [noncount]

un-rest /ˌʌnˈrɛst/ *noun* [noncount] : a situation in which many of the people in a country are angry and hold protests

or act violently • The country has experienced years of civil/social/political *unrest*.

un-re-strained /ˌʌnrɪ'streɪnd/ *adj*

1 : not held in place by a belt, seat, device, etc. • The child in the car accident was *unrestrained*. • She was fined for driving with an *unrestrained* infant.

2 : not controlled or limited • *unrestrained* spending • *unrestrained* growth • Their enthusiasm was *unrestrained*.

un-re-strict-ed /ˌʌnrɪ'strɪktəd/ *adj* : not controlled or limited in any way : not restricted • I was granted *unrestricted* access to the documents. • I bought an *unrestricted* ticket allowing me to travel at any time. • We had an *unrestricted* view of the stage.

un-re-ward-ing /ˌʌnrɪ'wɔːdɪŋ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not giving you a good feeling that you have done something valuable, important, etc. : not rewarding • an *unrewarding* task • I find the work dull and *unrewarding*.

un-ripe /ˌʌn'raɪp/ *adj*, of food : not fully grown or developed : not yet ready to eat : not ripe • *unripe* fruit • Bananas are green when *unripe*.

un-ri-valed (US) or *Brit un-ri-valled* /ˌʌn'raɪvəld/ *adj* : better than anyone or anything else • a palace of *unrivalled* magnificence • Her athletic records are *unrivalled*.

un-roll /ˌʌn'roul/ *verb* -rolls; -rolled; -roll-ing

1 : to make (something that has been rolled) flat : to smooth out (something that is rolled up) [+ *obj*] He carefully *unrolled* the ancient scroll. • I *unrolled* the new carpet. • When we arrived at the cabin, we *unrolled* our sleeping bags. [no *obj*] The hose will *unroll* if you pull on it.

2 a [+ *obj*] : to make (something) known in a public or formal way • Last week, the government *unrolled* a new vaccination campaign. b [no *obj*] : to happen as time passes : UNFOLD • The scandal *unrolled* over the course of several weeks.

un-ro-man-tic /ˌʌnrəʊ'mæntɪk/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not romantic: such as a : not suitable for romance or for creating romantic feelings • an *unromantic* setting b : not doing and saying things to show that you love someone • My wife is so *unromantic*. c : describing or thinking about something in a realistic way • His books offer an *unromantic* view of war.

un-ruf-fled /ˌʌn'rʌfəld/ *adj* : not upset or disturbed • She remained *unruffled* despite the delays.

un-ruly /ˌʌn'ruːli/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *disapproving* : difficult to control • *unruly* children • The bus driver called in the police to deal with an *unruly* [=disruptive] passenger. • his *unruly* hair

— **un-rul-i-ness** *noun* [noncount]

un-sad-dle /ˌʌn'sædl/ *verb* -sad-dles; -sad-dled; -sad-dling

1 [+ *obj*] : to remove the saddle from (a horse) • She *unsaddled* her horse.

2 [no *obj*] : to get off a horse, bicycle, etc. • The riders *unsaddled* after the race.

un-safe /ˌʌn'seɪf/ *adj* **un-saf-er; -est** [or more ~; most ~] : not safe: such as

1 a : able or likely to cause harm, damage, or loss • It's *unsafe* to send cash through the mail. • The water is *unsafe* for drinking. = It is *unsafe* to drink the water. • Driving while talking on a cell phone is *unsafe*. • He was fired for operating the machinery in an *unsafe* manner. b : not giving protection from danger, harm, or loss • This intersection is *unsafe* for pedestrians. • That country is an *unsafe* place to visit. • working under *unsafe* conditions • *unsafe* sex [=sex done without using anything (such as a condom) that can prevent unwanted pregnancy or the spread of disease] c : not protected from danger, harm, or loss • Incidents at the school have made students feel *unsafe*. d : likely to take risks : not careful • The police should be doing more to get *unsafe* drivers off the road.

2 *Brit, law* — used to describe a decision, judgment, etc., that is based on evidence which is not considered to be good enough • an *unsafe* conviction

— **un-safe-ly** *adv* • She was arrested for driving *unsafely*.

un-said /ˌʌn'sed/ *adj* : thought but not spoken out loud or discussed • I think that some things are better left *unsaid*.

un-salt-ed /ˌʌn'sɑːltəd/ *adj* : not salted or containing extra salt • *unsalted* butter

un-san-i-tary /ˌʌn'sænə'teri, *Brit* ˌʌn'sænə'tri/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : dirty and likely to cause disease : not sanitary • working under *unsanitary* conditions • The bathroom facilities were *unsanitary*.

un-sat-is-fac-to-ry /ˌʌn,sætəs'fæktəri/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not good enough : not satisfactory • He was fired for *unsatisfactory* performance. • The repairs were *unsatisfactory*.

— **un-sat-is-fac-to-ri-ly** /ˌʌn,sætəs'fæktərəli/ *adv*

un-sat-is-fied /ˌʌn'sætəs,faɪd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : not dealt with in a way that provides what is needed or wanted • an *unsatisfied* curiosity/hunger/need

2 : not pleased or happy about what has happened or been done : DISSATISFIED • an *unsatisfied* [=unhappy] customer • I'm very *unsatisfied* with the result.

un-sat-is-fy-ing /ˌʌn'sætəs,fajɪŋ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not providing what is needed or wanted : not satisfying • The meal was expensive and *unsatisfying*.

un-sat-u-rat-ed /ˌʌn'sætʃə'reɪtəd/ *adj* — used to describe a type of oil or fat that is found in foods and that is better for your health than other types • *unsaturated* fats • *unsaturated* fatty acids — compare MONOUNSATURATED, POLYUNSATURATED, SATURATED

un-sa-vory (US) or *Brit un-sa-voury* /ˌʌn'seɪvəri/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : unpleasant or offensive • He is an *unsavory* character. • She lives in an *unsavory* [=dangerous, bad] neighborhood.

un-scathed /ˌʌn'skeɪðd/ *adj*, not used before a noun : not hurt, harmed, or damaged • She escaped/emerged from the wreckage *unscathed*. • The administration was left relatively *unscathed* by the scandal.

un-scent-ed /ˌʌn'sentəd/ *adj* : not having any added smell from perfumes, chemicals, etc. • *unscented* candles

un-sched-uled /ˌʌn'skeɪdʒuːld, *Brit* ˌʌn'skeɪdʒuːld/ *adj* : not planned for a certain time : not scheduled • an *unscheduled* departure

un-schooled /ˌʌn'skuːld/ *adj*, formal + old-fashioned : not formally taught or trained • These things look the same to my *unschooled* eye. • sculptures made by *unschooled* artists • Their children were *unschooled*. [=their children did not go to school]

un-sci-en-tif-ic /ˌʌn,sajən'tɪfɪk/ *adj* : not done in a way that agrees with the methods of science : not scientific • I conducted an *unscientific* survey/poll. • an *unscientific* theory — **un-sci-en-tif-i-cal-ly** /ˌʌn,sajən'tɪfɪkli/ *adv* • a poll conducted *unscientifically*

un-scam-ble /ˌʌn'skræmbəl/ *verb* -scam-bles; -scam-bled; -scam-bling [+ *obj*] : to change (something, such as a message or an electronic signal) from a form that cannot be understood to a form that can be properly displayed, heard, read, etc. • We weren't able to *unscramble* the satellite signal. • Detectives worked to *unscramble* [=decode] the messages. • *Unscramble* the letters ALCEDNRA to spell "CALENDAR."

un-screw /ˌʌn'skruː/ *verb* -screws; -screwed; -screw-ing

1 : to loosen and remove (something) by turning it [+ *obj*] *unscrew* a light bulb • I *unscrewed* the jar lid. [no *obj*] The lid *unscrews* easily.

2 [+ *obj*] : to remove the screws from (something) • You'll need to *unscrew* the cover before you remove it.

un-script-ed /ˌʌn'skrɪptəd/ *adj* : not written or planned at an earlier time • *unscripted* comments • Her reaction was completely *unscripted*.

un-scru-pu-lous /ˌʌn'skruːpjələs/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not honest or fair : doing things that are wrong, dishonest, or illegal • an *unscrupulous* businessman

— **un-scru-pu-lous-ly** *adv* — **un-scru-pu-lous-ness** *noun* [noncount]

un-seal /ˌʌn'siːl/ *verb* -seals; -sealed; -seal-ing [+ *obj*] : to open (something) by breaking or removing a seal • She *unsealed* the envelope. • The court *unsealed* the documents in the Douglas trial today.

— **unsealed** *adj* • an *unsealed* envelope [=an envelope that is not sealed]

un-sea-son-able /ˌʌn'siːznəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] of weather : not normal for a certain time of year : not seasonable • *unseasonable* weather • Temperatures have been *unseasonable*.

— **un-sea-son-ably** /ˌʌn'siːznəbli/ *adv* • The weather has been *unseasonably* cool.

un-sea-soned /ˌʌn'siːznəd/ *adj*

1 : not having a lot of experience in a particular job or activity • an *unseasoned* actor/writer/rookie

2 of food : not having added spices, herbs, salt, pepper, etc. • The dish can be left *unseasoned*. • *unseasoned* hamburger

un·seat /ˌʌnˈsi:t/ *verb* -seats; -seat-ed; -seat-ing [+ *obj*]
 1 : to remove (someone or something) from a position of power or authority • He *unseated* an incumbent senator.
 2 : to cause (someone) to fall from a seat or saddle • The horse bucked and *unseated* its rider.

un·se·cured /ˌʌnsɪˈkjəd/ *adj* : not protected against risk or loss : not secure • *unsecured* debt • an *unsecured* loan

un·seed·ed /ˌʌnˈsi:dəd/ *adj* : not ranked as one of the best players in a sports competition (such as a tennis tournament) : not seeded • An *unseeded* player defeated the fourth-seeded player.

un·see·ing /ˌʌnˈsi:ɪŋ/ *adj*, *formal* + *literary* — used to describe someone whose eyes are open but who is not looking at or noticing anything • He stared out the window with *unseeing* eyes.

un·seem·ly /ˌʌnˈsi:mlɪ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *formal* : not proper or appropriate for the situation : not seemly • rude and *unseemly* behavior • He spent *unseemly* amounts of money on himself.
 — **un·seem·li·ness** /ˌʌnˈsi:mlinəs/ *noun* [noncount]

un·seen /ˌʌnˈsi:n/ *adj* : not seen or able to be seen • *unseen* dangers • an *unseen* sniper • He escaped *unseen*.
sight unseen see ¹SIGHT

un·self·con·scious /ˌʌnˌselfˈkɑ:nʃəs/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : confident and comfortable : not self-conscious • He sang with *unselfconscious* ease.
 — **un·self·con·scious·ly** *adv*

un·self·ish /ˌʌnˈselfɪʃ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : having or showing more concern for other people than for yourself : not selfish • *unselfish* behavior • She's a very *unselfish* young woman.
 — **un·self·ish·ly** *adv* • She *unselfishly* gave of her time.
 — **un·self·ish·ness** *noun* [noncount]

un·sen·ti·men·tal /ˌʌnˌsentəˈmentl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : based on, influenced by, or resulting from reason or thought rather than feelings or emotions : not sentimental • an *unsentimental* decision • She's completely *unsentimental* about holidays. • a tough, *unsentimental* man

un·set·tle /ˌʌnˈsetl/ *verb* -set-tles; -set-tled; -set-ting [+ *obj*] : to make (someone) nervous, worried, or upset • Such a sudden change will *unsettle* her.

un·set·tled /ˌʌnˈsetld/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]
 1 : feeling nervous, upset, or worried : not comfortable • *unsettled* investors • an *unsettled* stomach
 2 : not lived in by people : not inhabited or populated • This region of the country is still largely *unsettled*. [=not settled]
 3 : not yet finally decided or dealt with • an *unsettled* question • We have some *unsettled* business to attend to.
 4 : likely to change : not calm or stable • *unsettled* weather • an *unsettled* political climate
 5 : not yet paid • *unsettled* debts

un·set·tling /ˌʌnˈsetlɪŋ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : making you upset, nervous, worried, etc. • *unsettling* news • *unsettling* images

un·shack·le /ˌʌnˈʃækəl/ *verb* -shack·les; -shack·led; -shack·ling [+ *obj*] : to take shackles or handcuffs off (someone) • He *unshackled* the prisoner. — often used figuratively • We need to *unshackle* our creativity.

un·shak·able or **un·shake·able** /ˌʌnˈʃeɪkəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : too strong to be changed, weakened, or destroyed • Their love was *unshakable*. • our *unshakable* belief in equal treatment • an *unshakable* faith • He had the *unshakable* feeling that something was wrong.
 — **un·shak·ably** *adv*

un·shak·en /ˌʌnˈʃeɪkən/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *formal* : not changed or weakened • Her faith was *unshaken*. • He remained *unshaken* [=firm] in his beliefs. • *unshaken* confidence

un·shav·en /ˌʌnˈʃeɪvən/ *adj* : not shaved or not recently shaved • Her legs were *unshaven*. • He was scruffy and *unshaven*.

un·sight·ly /ˌʌnˈsaɪtli/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not pleasant to look at : UGLY • an *unsightly* scar • The cracks in the wall are *unsightly*.

un·signed /ˌʌnˈsaɪnd/ *adj*
 1 **a** : not having a signature • an *unsigned* note **b** : published without the name of the writer • an *unsigned* editorial
 2 : not having a contract with a professional sports team, music company, etc. • *unsigned* draft picks • an *unsigned* pitcher • Their band is still *unsigned*.

un·skilled /ˌʌnˈskɪld/ *adj*

1 : not having special skills : without training or education • *unskilled* laborers
 2 : not requiring special skills or training • *unskilled* jobs — opposite SKILLED

un·smil·ing /ˌʌnˈsmɑɪlɪŋ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *somewhat formal* : not smiling : serious and unfriendly • The soldiers were tense and *unsmiling*. • an *unsmiling* woman

un·so·cia·ble /ˌʌnˈsoʊʃəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]
 1 : not liking to be with other people : not sociable • an *unsociable* man
 2 *Brit* : UNSOCIAL • a job with *unsociable* hours

un·so·cial /ˌʌnˈsoʊʃəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *Brit* : occurring at times that prevent you from being with your friends and family • a job with *unsocial* hours [=a job that requires you to work at unusual hours when other people are spending time together]

un·sold /ˌʌnˈsoʊld/ *adj* : not sold : not bought by someone • The books went *unsold*. • *unsold* inventory

un·so·lic·it·ed /ˌʌnsəˈlɪsətəd/ *adj* : not asked for : given or received without being requested • *unsolicited* e-mail • That comment was *unsolicited* and rude.

un·solved /ˌʌnˈsoʊld/ *adj* : not yet solved : never solved • an *unsolved* crime • one of science's great *unsolved* problems • The case remains *unsolved*.
 — **un·solv·able** /ˌʌnˈsoʊləbəl/ *adj* • The problem is not *unsolvable*.

un·so·phis·ti·cat·ed /ˌʌnsəˈfɪstəˌkeɪtəd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not sophisticated: such as **a** : not having or showing a lot of experience and knowledge about the world and about culture, art, literature, etc. • She was innocent and *unsophisticated* when she left for college. • He has *unsophisticated* tastes. **b** : not highly developed or complex • *unsophisticated* weapons

un·sound /ˌʌnˈsaʊnd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]
 1 : not based on truth or logic : not showing good judgment • *unsound* [=faulty] arguments • *unsound* business practices
 2 : poorly built or in bad condition • an *unsound* [=unsafe] building • The roof is structurally *unsound*.
of unsound mind *law* : mentally ill : not sane • He was found to be *of unsound mind* when he committed the murder.

un·spar·ing /ˌʌnˈspərɪŋ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *formal* : very harsh or severe • *unsparing* criticism • an *unsparing* critic
 — **un·spar·ing·ly** *adv* • She was *unsparingly* frank.

un·speak·able /ˌʌnˈspi:kəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]
 1 : very bad or evil • the *unspeakable* horror of war • *unspeakable* crimes
 2 : impossible to describe in words • an *unspeakable* loss • moments of *unspeakable* beauty
 — **un·speak·ably** /ˌʌnˈspi:kəbli/ *adv* • She was *unspeakably* cruel.

un·spec·i·fied /ˌʌnˈspesəˌfaɪd/ *adj* : not named or mentioned : not specified • an *unspecified* amount of money

un·spec·tac·u·lar /ˌʌnspekˈtækjələ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not spectacular or special : ORDINARY • The team has had an *unspectacular* season. • The company's stock has shown consistent if *unspectacular* growth.

un·spoiled /ˌʌnˈspɔɪld/ or chiefly *Brit* **un·spoilt** /ˌʌnˈspɔɪlt/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]
 1 : still wild and not changed by people : not spoiled • *unspoiled* beaches/countryside
 2 : not affected by the special attention you are receiving because of fame or success • He's completely *unspoiled* by success.

un·spo·ken /ˌʌnˈspoukən/ *adj* : expressed or understood without being directly stated • an *unspoken* [=unstated] agreement

un·sport·ing /ˌʌnˈspɔ:tɪŋ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] chiefly *Brit* : not done or behaving in a way that treats the other people in a sport or competition fairly : not sporting • It was very *unsporting* of you to trip him. • *unsporting* behavior

un·sports·man·like /ˌʌnˈspɔ:tsmənˌlaɪk/ *adj* : not fair, respectful, and polite toward other players when participating in a sport : not sportsmanlike • *Unsportsmanlike* conduct will not be tolerated.

un·sta·ble /ˌʌnˈsteɪbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not stable: such as **a** : likely to change • *unstable* prices • *unstable* weather **b** : not emotionally or mentally healthy • She is emotionally/mentally *unstable*. **c** : not held in a secure position : likely to move or fall • an *unstable* tower/ladder **d** *technical* : having a chemical structure or physical state that

changes easily • an *unstable* nuclear reactor core • an *unstable* element

un-stat-ed /ˌʌnˈsteɪtəd/ *adj*, somewhat formal : expressed or understood without being directly stated • an *unstated* conclusion/policy

un-steady /ˌʌnˈstedi/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not steady: such as **a** : not standing or moving in a steady and balanced way • The stool/ladder is *unsteady*. • He was a little *unsteady* on his feet. • The horse walked with an *unsteady* gait. **b** : shaking or moving because of nervousness, weakness, etc. • He signed his name with an *unsteady* hand. • Her voice was *unsteady*. **c** : not happening or proceeding in a smooth and constant way • The progress of the work has been *unsteady*. • a period of *unsteady* growth

— **un-stead-i-ly** /ˌʌnˈstedəli/ *adv* — **un-stead-i-ness** /ˌʌnˈstedinəs/ *noun* [noncount]

un-stint-ing /ˌʌnˈstɪntɪŋ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] formal — used to say that someone gives something (such as praise or support) in a very strong and generous way • He was *unstinting* in his praise of her efforts. [=he praised her efforts very highly] • *unstinting* support

— **un-stint-ing-ly** *adv* • She gave *unstintingly* of her time.

un-stop-pa-ble /ˌʌnˈstɑ:pəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not able to be stopped • *unstoppable* momentum • At this point in the campaign, he appears to be *unstoppable*.

un-stressed /ˌʌnˈstrest/ *adj* : not having an accent or a stress • The second syllable of the word “random” is *unstressed*.

un-struc-tured /ˌʌnˈstrʌktʃəd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not happening according to a plan : not organized or planned in a formal way • *Unstructured* play time is important for children. • Her life is very *unstructured*.

un-stuck /ˌʌnˈstʌk/ *adj* : able to move freely : no longer stuck • We couldn't get the steering wheel *unstuck*.

become/come unstuck **1** : to stop being stuck to something • The suction cup *came unstuck* from the wall. • The photograph was *becoming unstuck*. **2** *Brit, informal* : to fail • Their marriage *came unstuck* [= (US) *came unglued*] last summer.

un-stud-ied /ˌʌnˈstʌdɪd/ *adj*

1 [more ~; most ~] : not planned or done in a deliberate way : sincere and natural • She moved with an *unstudied* grace.

2 : not studied by scientists before • a previously *unstudied* species

un-styl-ish /ˌʌnˈstɑɪlɪʃ/ *adj* : not stylish or fashionable • *unstylish* clothes

un-sub-stan-ti-at-ed /ˌʌnsəbˈstænfɪ,etəd/ *adj*, formal : not proven to be true • *unsubstantiated* claims/rumors

un-suc-cess-ful /ˌʌnsəkˈsesfəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not having or producing success : not successful • The operation was *unsuccessful*. • an *unsuccessful* musician • His last novel was *unsuccessful*. • an *unsuccessful* attempt

— **un-suc-cess-ful-ly** *adv* • They tried *unsuccessfully* to change his mind.

un-suit-able /ˌʌnˈsu:təbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not having the qualities that are right, needed, or appropriate for something : not suitable • She is an *unsuitable* candidate for the job. • The movie is *unsuitable* for children.

— **un-suit-abil-i-ty** /ˌʌnˈsu:təbɪləti/ *noun* [noncount] • Her *unsuitability* for the job became evident. — **un-suit-ably** /ˌʌnˈsu:təbli/ *adv* • They were *unsuitably* dressed for a dinner party.

un-suit-ed /ˌʌnˈsu:təd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not having the qualities that are right, needed, or appropriate for something or someone : not suited — + *for* or *to* • She is completely *unsuited* for the job. • He is *unsuited to* academic life.

un-sul-lied /ˌʌnˈsʌlɪd/ *adj*, formal + literary : not harmed or damaged in any way • an *unsullied* reputation

un-sung /ˌʌnˈsʌŋ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not given attention and praise that is deserved for doing good things • the *unsung* men and women who keep the streets safe • He is one of the *unsung heroes* of the civil rights movement.

un-su-per-vised /ˌʌnˈsu:pəˈvaɪzd/ *adj* : not watched and directed by someone who has authority : not supervised • The kids were left *unsupervised* while their parents were out. • *Unsupervised* visits are not allowed at the prison.

un-sup-port-ed /ˌʌnsəˈpɔ:təd/ *adj*

1 : not having physical support • Removing the posts left part of the roof *unsupported*.

2 : not having evidence showing that something is true • an *unsupported* claim/theory • *unsupported* allegations • Their

claims are *unsupported* by evidence.

un-sure /ˌʌnˈʃʊ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not certain about something : not sure • He was *unsure* whether she had reserved a room or not. • I'm *unsure* about the offer. • He seemed *unsure* of what to say. • We're *unsure* (of) how to proceed.

unsure of yourself : not confident about what to do or say • She was *unsure of herself* as a child. • I felt a little *unsure of myself* when I started the job, but things are better now.

un-sur-passed /ˌʌnsəˈpæst, Brit ˌʌnsəˈpɑ:st/ *adj*, somewhat formal : better or greater than anyone or anything else • The region is *unsurpassed* in beauty. • *unsurpassed* craftsmanship

un-sur-prised /ˌʌnsəˈpraɪzd/ *adj* : not surprised by something because you expected it • I was *unsurprised* to find he would not be coming. • Readers will be *unsurprised* by her revelations.

un-sur-pris-ing /ˌʌnsəˈpraɪzɪŋ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not causing surprise because you expected it : not surprising • His anger is *unsurprising*. • an *unsurprising* fact

— **un-sur-pris-ing-ly** *adv* • They decided, *unsurprisingly*, to stay with their original plan.

un-sus-pect-ed /ˌʌnsəˈspektəd/ *adj* : not known to exist • He died suddenly of an *unsuspected* heart condition. : not suspected • His real intentions were *unsuspected* by his friends.

un-sus-pect-ing /ˌʌnsəˈspektɪŋ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not knowing about or expecting something bad that is going to happen or that could happen • *unsuspecting* victims • *Unsuspecting* tourists are the prey of pickpockets.

un-sus-tain-able /ˌʌnsəˈsteɪnəbəl/ *adj* : not able to last or continue for a long time : not sustainable • *unsustainable* logging/fishing • The current rate of economic growth is *unsustainable*.

un-swayed /ˌʌnˈsweɪd/ *adj* — used to say that someone's opinion has not changed despite efforts to change it • I tried to convince him, but he remained *unswayed*.

un-sweet-ened /ˌʌnˈswi:tənd/ *adj* : not having sugar added : not sweetened • *unsweetened* iced tea

un-swerv-ing /ˌʌnˈswɜ:vɪŋ/ *adj* : not changing or becoming weaker : always staying strong • his *unswerving* devotion to duty • *unswerving* loyalty

un-sym-pa-thet-ic /ˌʌnˌsɪmpəˈθetɪk/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not sympathetic: such as **a** : not feeling or showing concern about someone who is in a bad situation • an *unsympathetic* judge • The magazine article was *unsympathetic*. — often + *to* or *toward* • She is very *unsympathetic to/toward* the poor. **b** *not used before a noun* : not having or showing support for or approval of something — often + *to* or *toward* • He was *unsympathetic to/toward* their cause. [=he did not support their cause] **c** : not having pleasant or appealing qualities • The hero in the movie is an *unsympathetic* character.

un-taint-ed /ˌʌnˈteɪntəd/ *adj*, formal : not damaged or spoiled in any way : not tainted • a woman of *untainted* character • He was *untainted* by corruption.

un-tamed /ˌʌnˈteɪmd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : wild and not controlled by people : not tamed • the wild and *untamed* beauty of the mountains • *untamed* animals

un-tan-gle /ˌʌnˈtæŋɡəl/ *verb* -tan-gles; -tan-gled; -tan-gling [+ *obj*] : to separate (things that are twisted together) • He *untangled* the ropes. : to remove the twists or knots in (something) • She carefully *untangled* the child's hair. • He *untangled* the garden hose. — often used figuratively • She *untangled* [=solved] the mystery. • They're still trying to *untangle* the financial mess that they've gotten themselves into.

un-tapped /ˌʌnˈtæpt/ *adj* : available but not used • *untapped* resources

un-ten-a-ble /ˌʌnˈtenəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] formal : not capable of being defended against attack or criticism : not tenable • an *untenable* argument • The theory is *untenable*.

un-tend-ed /ˌʌnˈtendəd/ *adj* : not watched and taken care of • The garden was left *untended* while they were away. • Three *untended* horses grazed in the field.

un-test-ed /ˌʌnˈtestəd/ *adj* : not yet shown to be good, strong, etc., by being used, placed in a difficult situation, etc. • *untested* troops [=troops that have not yet fought in a battle] • an *untested* theory

un-think-able /ˌʌnˈθɪŋkəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : impossible to imagine or believe • It was *unthinkable* [=inconceiv-

able] that he was leaving. : too bad or shocking to be thought of • *unthinkable* [=unimaginable] cruelty

the unthinkable : something that you cannot accept, believe, or imagine; *especially* : something that is so bad that you do not want to think about it • And then, *the unthinkable* happened: the car skidded out of control and crashed.

un·think·ing /ˌʌnˈθɪŋkɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : done or said in a foolish or careless way without thinking about the possible effects • *unthinking* remarks • His *unthinking* agreement made me uneasy. : behaving in a foolish or careless way without careful thought • *unthinking* consumers

– **un·think·ing·ly** *adv* • She agreed to go *unthinkingly*. • I *unthinkingly* put my purse on the roof of the car.

un·ti·dy /ˌʌnˈtɑɪdi/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 a : not neat or clean • His room was *untidy*. • an *untidy* desk **b** : not having neat or clean habits • *untidy* roommates

2 : not done in an organized and pleasant way • an *untidy* [=messy] divorce

– **un·ti·di·ness** /ˌʌnˈtɑɪdɪnəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

un·tie /ˌʌnˈtaɪ/ *verb* -ties; -tied; -ty·ing

1 : to undo the knots in or of (something) [+ *obj*] She *untied* her shoelaces/shoes. • He *untied* the package and opened it. • *untie* a rope • Your shoelaces are *untied*. [*no obj*] The knot *untied* easily.

2 [+ *obj*] : to remove the rope, string, etc., that attaches (something or someone) to something • She *untied* the horse from the post.

1 un·til /ənˈtɪl/ *prep*

1 : up to (a particular time) — used to indicate the time when a particular situation, activity, or period ends • I stayed *until* morning. • He was in prison from 1850 *until* the 1854 revolt. • She will be out of the office *until* next week. • The coupon is good *until* the end of March. • *Until then*, I had never known happiness. • I will keep working *up until* dinnertime.

2 — used to indicate the time when something will happen, become true, etc. • We don't open *until* ten. • The car won't be ready *until* tomorrow.

2 until *conj* : up to the time or point that • We played *until* it got dark. • Wait *until* I call. • Keep going *until* I tell you to stop. • I ran *until* I was breathless. • Stay here *until* the danger has passed. • Stir the dough *until* it forms a ball. • You cannot go outside *until* you finish your homework. = **Not until** you finish your homework can you go outside. [=when you finish your homework you can go outside, but not before then]

un·time·ly /ˌʌnˈtaɪmli/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : happening or done sooner than you expect : occurring before the proper or right time • the tragedy of her *untimely* [=premature] death

2 : happening or done at a time that is not suitable or appropriate • an *untimely* comment/interruption/error

un·tir·ing /ˌʌnˈtaɪrɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : working very hard with a lot of energy for a long time : never seeming to get tired • the rescuers' *untiring* efforts • She is an *untiring* [=tireless] advocate for the poor.

un·ti·tled /ˌʌnˈtɑɪtld/ *adj* : not named : not having a title • an *untitled* poem • This work is *untitled*.

un·to /ˈʌntu/ *prep*, *old-fashioned* — used in the past like “to” • I will search *unto* the ends of the earth for thee. • I will be with you *unto* [=until] the end of time.

un·told /ˌʌnˈtould/ *adj*

1 : not told or made public • *untold* secrets • His is a story yet *untold*.

2 : too many to count or too much to measure • *untold* riches • stars in *untold* numbers

1 un·touch·able /ˌʌnˈtʌtʃəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not able to be touched: such as **a** : too powerful or important to be punished, criticized, etc. • The mayor believed that he was *untouchable* and not subject to the same laws as the rest of us. **b** : too good to be equaled by anyone else • The team's record was *untouchable*.

2 untouchable *noun*, *pl* -ables [*count*] : a member of the lowest social class in India

un·touched /ˌʌnˈtʌtʃt/ *adj* : not touched: such as **a** : not handled or used • The piano was *untouched* for years. **b** [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not changed : still in the original state or condition • *untouched* wilderness • The original agreement remains *untouched*. **c** : not eaten or drunk : not tasted • He left his food *untouched*. **d** : not emotionally affected by something • She was *untouched* [=unmoved] by his declarations of love. **e** : not dealt with • The artist's biographer left a few important events of his life *untouched*.

un·to·ward /ˌʌnˈtowəd, ˌʌnˈtoəd/ *adj*, *formal*

1 : bad or unfavorable : not good • *untoward* side effects • disadvantages and *untoward* circumstances

2 : not proper or appropriate • There was nothing *untoward* about his appearance.

un·trained /ˌʌnˈtreɪnd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : without formal training • *untrained* employees • an *untrained* singing voice • To the *untrained* eye, it looks like the magician really is sawing the woman in half. • His *untrained* ear could not pick out the wrong notes.

un·tram·meled (US) or *Brit* **un·tram·melled** /ˌʌnˈtræməld/ *adj*, *formal* : not limited or restricted • *untrammelled* greed • They lived as they pleased, *untrammelled* by convention.

un·treat·ed /ˌʌnˈtri:təd/ *adj*

1 : not getting medical care : without medical treatment • an *untreated* disease • The patient remains *untreated*.

2 : not made better or safer by being treated with a chemical or other substance • *untreated* sewage • *untreated* wood

– **un·treat·able** /ˌʌnˈtri:təbəl/ *adj* • an *untreatable* disease

un·tried /ˌʌnˈtraɪd/ *adj* : not yet shown to be good, strong, etc., by being used, placed in a difficult situation, etc. : not tested or tried • *untried* technology • an *untried* remedy

un·true /ˌʌnˈtru:/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : not true : FALSE • The allegations are *untrue*. • He made *untrue* statements to the press.

2 *literary* + *old-fashioned* : not loyal to someone or something : not honest • Her lover had been *untrue*.

un·trust·wor·thy /ˌʌnˈtrʌst,wɔːði/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not able to be trusted : not trustworthy • an *untrustworthy* person • He has proven himself *untrustworthy*.

un·truth /ˌʌnˈtruːθ/ *noun*, *pl* -truths *formal*

1 [*count*] : a statement that is not true : LIE • a blatant *untruth* • the *untruths* he has uttered

2 [*noncount*] : the state of being false or a lie • The *untruth* [=falseness] of that statement is apparent.

un·truth·ful /ˌʌnˈtruːθfəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not telling the truth : not truthful • *untruthful* reports • an *untruthful* witness

– **un·truth·ful·ly** *adv*

un·tucked /ˌʌnˈtʌkt/ *adj*, *chiefly* US : not tucked into something (such as your pants) • Your shirt is *untucked*.

un·turned /ˌʌnˈtənd/ *adj*

leave no stone unturned see **1** STONE

un·tu·tored /ˌʌnˈtu:təd, *Brit* ˌʌnˈtju:təd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : not having been formally taught something • an *untutored* artist

un·typ·i·cal /ˌʌnˈtɪpɪkəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not usual or normal : not typical • His behavior was *untypical*. [=atypical] • Marrying at such a young age was not *untypical* of the time.

un·us·able /ˌʌnˈjuːzəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not good enough to be used : not usable • The tools were rusty and *unusable*. • *unusable* land

un·used /ˌʌnˈjuːzd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : not being used : not having been used before • *unused* airline tickets • *unused* disk space • The library has been *unused* for 10 years.

2 : available for use in the future • I have four days of *unused* vacation time left.

un·used to /ˌʌnˈjuːst-/ : not familiar or comfortable with (something) : not used to (something) • He is *unused to* large crowds. • I was *unused to* being awake so late at night.

un·usu·al /ˌʌnˈjuːzəwəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : not normal or usual • *unusual* occurrences/behavior • It's not *unusual* for him to stay late at work. • a scene of *unusual* beauty • cruel and *unusual* punishment

2 : different or strange in a way that attracts attention • an *unusual* car/design

3 : not commonly seen, heard, etc. • She saw an *unusual* [=rare] flower while hiking. • She has an *unusual* name.

un·usu·al·ly /ˌʌnˈjuːzəwəli/ *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : to a great degree : VERY • an *unusually* large dog

2 : in a way that is not normal or usual • My friend, most *unusually*, decided not to go with me. • You're *unusually* quiet this morning.

un·ut·ter·able /ˌʌnˈʌtərəbəl/ *adj*, *always* used before a noun [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : too strong or great to be expressed or described • *unutterable* joy/pain

– **un·ut·ter·ably** /ˌʌnˈʌtərəbli/ *adv*

un·var·nished /ˌʌnˈvɑːnɪʃt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : plain and direct : HONEST • the *unvarnished* truth • If you

want my *unvarnished* opinion, the movie stinks.

2 : not covered with varnish • *unvarnished* wood

un·vary·ing /ˌʌnˈveriɪŋ/ *adj* : always the same : never changing or varying • She follows the same, *unvarying* routine every morning.

un·veil /ˌʌnˈveil/ *verb* -veils; -veiled; -veil·ing [+ *obj*]

1 : to show or reveal (something) to others for the first time • The developer *unveiled* plans for a new housing complex. • The company will *unveil* its newest product today.

2 : to remove a cover from (something) so that people can see it • *unveil* a statue

— **un·veiling** *noun*, *pl* -ings [count] • Many people were present for the *unveiling* of the statue.

un·voiced /ˌʌnˈvoɪst/ *adj*

1 : not expressed in spoken words • They nodded their *unvoiced* [=unspoken] agreement.

2 *linguistics*, of a speech sound : made without vibrating your vocal cords • The “th” in the word “thing” is *unvoiced*.

un·waged /ˌʌnˈweɪdʒd/ *adj*, *Brit* : not earning or paying wages • *unwaged* students • *unwaged* work

un·want·ed /ˌʌnˈwɑːntəd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not wanted or needed • *unwanted* attention • an *unwanted* pregnancy

un·war·rant·ed /ˌʌnˈwɒrəntəd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *formal* : not necessary or appropriate : not warranted • Your anger is *unwarranted*. • an *unwarranted* assumption

un·wary /ˌʌnˈweri/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : easily fooled or surprised : not aware of and careful about possible problems, dangers, etc. • *unwary* buyers • The fast-moving tide sometimes surprises *unwary* swimmers.

un·washed /ˌʌnˈwɑːʃt/ *adj* : not clean : not washed • a sink full of *unwashed* dishes • *unwashed* hair

the (great) unwashed *old-fashioned + humorous* : ordinary or common people who do not have a lot of money, power, or social status • I’m just a member of *the great unwashed*.

un·wa·ver·ing /ˌʌnˈwɛrvərɪŋ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : continuing in a strong and steady way : not changing or wavering • He has my *unwavering* support. • *unwavering* loyalty/bravery

— **un·wa·ver·ing·ly** *adv*

un·wed /ˌʌnˈwed/ *adj* : not married • an *unwed* mother

un·wel·come /ˌʌnˈwɛlkəm/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not wanted or welcome • *unwelcome* news • He made me feel *unwelcome*.

un·wel·com·ing /ˌʌnˈwɛlkəmɪŋ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not making you feel comfortable and welcome • The hotel staff was *unwelcoming*. • The restaurant was dark and *unwelcoming*.

un·well /ˌʌnˈwɛl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *formal* : not feeling well : SICK • Miss Bennett, are you *unwell*? • I am sorry she is feeling *unwell*.

un·whole·some /ˌʌnˈhoʊlsəm/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : not good for your health • an *unwholesome* diet • *unwholesome* foods

2 : not mentally or morally good and normal • He has an *unwholesome* fascination with death. • *unwholesome* thoughts • The company has engaged in *unwholesome* [=improper] business practices.

un·wieldy /ˌʌnˈwiːldi/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : difficult to handle, control, or deal with because of being large, heavy, or complex • a large, *unwieldy* box • The system is outdated and *unwieldy*. • *unwieldy* [=awkward] prose

— **un·wield·i·ness** /ˌʌnˈwiːldɪnəs/ *noun* [noncount]

un·will·ing /ˌʌnˈwɪlɪŋ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not willing: such as **a** : not wanting to do something — usually followed by *to* + *verb* • The witness was *unwilling to cooperate*. • He is *unwilling to help*. **b** *always used before a noun* : made to do something that you do not want to do • He was an *unwilling* participant in the demonstration.

— **un·will·ing·ly** *adv* • I took his money most *unwillingly*.

— **un·will·ing·ness** *noun* [noncount] • Your *unwillingness* to do extra work cost you a promotion.

un·wind /ˌʌnˈwaɪnd/ *verb* -winds; -wound /-ˈwaʊnd/; -wind·ing

1 : to move the end of something (such as a piece of string) that is wound in a roll, coil, etc., so that it becomes straight [+ *obj*] She *unwound* some thread from the spool. [no *obj*] The fishing line *unwound* quickly.

2 [no *obj*] : to relax and stop thinking about work, problems, etc. • I wanted to *unwind* after a hard day.

un·wise /ˌʌnˈwaɪz/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not intelligent or

wise • an *unwise* decision • It would be *unwise* to buy a house now.

— **un·wise·ly** *adv* • You chose *unwisely*.

un·wit·ting /ˌʌnˈwɪtɪŋ/ *adj*, *always used before a noun* [more ~; most ~]

1 : not aware of what is really happening • He kept the truth from his *unwitting* friends. • an *unwitting* victim of fraud

2 : not intended or planned • an *unwitting* mistake

— **un·wit·ting·ly** *adv* • She *unwittingly* offended the hostess.

un·wont·ed /ˌʌnˈwɒntəd, *Brit* ˌʌnˈwəʊntəd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *formal* : not normal, usual, or expected • He was surprised by her *unwonted* cheerfulness.

un·work·able /ˌʌnˈwɜːkəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not able to be done well or successfully : not practical or workable • It’s an interesting idea, but completely *unworkable*. • an *unworkable* plan

un·world·ly /ˌʌnˈwɜːldli/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : having or showing a lack of experience or knowledge of the world • an *unworldly* young man

2 : having an unusual quality that does not seem to be of this world • the *unworldly* beauty of the Grand Canyon • an *unworldly* landscape

un·wor·ried /ˌʌnˈwɜːrɪd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : calm and relaxed : not worried • She appeared *unworried* about/by the poll results.

un·wor·thy /ˌʌnˈwɜːði/ *adj* **un·wor·thi·er; -est** [also more ~; most ~] *formal*

1 : not good enough to deserve something or someone : not worthy • I am *unworthy*. — usually + *of* • She thought he was *unworthy of* his promotion. • He is *unworthy of* her.

2 : not appropriate or acceptable for a good or respected person • *unworthy* thoughts/feelings — usually + *of* • Those thoughts are *unworthy of* you. [=you are too good a person for those thoughts] • actions *unworthy of* a gentleman

— **un·wor·thi·ness** /ˌʌnˈwɜːðɪnəs/ *noun* [noncount]

unwound *past tense and past participle of UNWIND*

un·wrap /ˌʌnˈræp/ *verb* -wraps; -wrapped; -wrap·ping [+ *obj*] : to remove the covering that is around something • He *unwrapped* the gift. • *Unwrap* the bandages so I can see the wound.

un·writ·ten /ˌʌnˈrɪtɪn/ *adj* : spoken or understood without being written • They had an *unwritten* agreement. • an *unwritten* rule

un·yield·ing /ˌʌnˈjiːldɪŋ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : not changing or stopping • her *unyielding* [=firm] belief in his innocence • *unyielding* opposition/devotion

2 : not flexible or soft • the hard, *unyielding* ground

— **un·yield·ing·ly** *adv*

un·zip /ˌʌnˈzɪp/ *verb* -zips; -zipped; -zip·ping [+ *obj*]

1 : to open (something) by using a zipper • He *unzipped* his jacket. • She *unzipped* the tent flap.

2 *computers* : to cause (a file that has been reduced in size) to return to its original size by using special software • *unzip* a compressed file

¹**up** /ˈʌp/ *adv*

1 a : from a lower to a higher place or position • The land rises *up* from the valley. • Pull *up* your pants/socks. = Pull your pants/socks *up*. • I’ll come *up* [=upstairs] in a minute. • She stood beneath the window and called *up* to her friend. • Please pick your clothes *up* off the floor. • We watched the sun come *up*. **b** : in a high position or place • Keep your head *up*. • He held *up* his hand. • We stored the boxes *up* in the attic. • She stuck a notice *up* on the wall. • What’s going on *up* there?

2 : toward the sky or ceiling • He looked *up* at the stars. • The cards were on the table facing *up*.

3 : from beneath the ground or water to the surface • The dolphin came *up* for air. • She was in the garden pulling *up* weeds.

4 a : to or toward the north • She flew *up* from Florida. • They drove *up* to Canada. • The weather is much colder *up north*. **b informal** : to or toward a place that is thought of as above or away from another place • She went *up* to the cabin for the weekend. • How long will it take to drive *up* (to their house) and back? • Come on *up* and see us sometime. **c chiefly Brit** : to or at a more important place (such as a large city or university) • He went *up* to London. • Their daughter is *up* at Oxford.

5 a : to or toward a place that is close to someone or something • I walked *up* to her and said “hello.” • Please pull *up* a chair. • He lay down and pulled the covers *up*. **b** : to or toward a more forward position • We moved *up* to the front of

the line. • I'll bring these *up* to the checkout for you.

6 : in or into a vertical or upright position • Please stand *up* for the national anthem. • Sit *up*. Don't slouch. • He helped the man *up* (from his seat). • She turned the box *up* on its end.

7 : out of bed • What time did you get *up* this morning? • I stayed *up* late last night. [=I went to sleep late last night]

8 a : with greater force • Please speak *up*. I can't hear you.

b : at a higher or greater important position in a list or series • Supporting public education doesn't seem to be very *high/far up* on the government's agenda. • Spending time with family ranks pretty *high up* on my list. [=I think it is important to spend time with family] — opposite **DOWN**. **c** : to a higher or greater level, amount, or rate • Could you turn the volume/heat *up*, please? • It takes this car a long time to warm *up*. • The price of oil went *up*. • They ran *up* a big bill. • The car sped *up* and then slowed down. • The author is good at building *up* suspense. • The game is for children 12 years old and *up*. [=and older] • Students will be tested from fifth grade *up*. — opposite **DOWN**

9 : into a better or more advanced position or state • She worked herself *up* in the company. • He grew *up* on a farm.

10 : so as to appear or be present • The missing ring turned *up*. [=the missing ring was found] • They never showed *up*. • Houses were going *up* quickly.

11 : in or into a working or usable state • He set *up* his new computer. • We should put the tents *up* first.

12 : to someone's attention especially for discussion or consideration • He brought *up* the issue at the meeting. • Her contract has come *up* for negotiation.

13 : so as to be done or completed • He filled *up* the gas tank. • She gathered *up* her belongings and left. • I still have some work to finish *up*. • She used *up* all the tape. • They cleaned *up* the kitchen after supper. • He summed *up* the results of the study. • She added *up* all the numbers.

14 : so as to be closed • He sealed *up* the package. • She zipped *up* her son's jacket.

15 : into pieces or parts • She tore/cut *up* the paper. • Each group had a leader who divided *up* the work.

16 : into a state of activity or excitement • She stirred *up* the fire/crowd. • He worked himself *up* over nothing.

17 : to a stop • He pulled the car *up* at the curb.

18 : for each player or team : **APIECE** • The score is two *up*.

up and down **1** : forward and backward several or many times : repeatedly in one direction and then the opposite direction • He paced *up and down* in the waiting room. **2** : from a lower position to a higher position several times • The children were jumping *up and down*. • Her father looked me *up and down* [=looked at me carefully to decide what he thought of me] before inviting me in.

up close see **³CLOSE**

²up *adj*

1 not used before a noun **a** : in a high place or position • The candy is *up* on the top shelf. **b** : raised so as to be opened • The window is already *up*. **c** : risen above the horizon • The sun is *up*. **d** : risen from beneath the ground or water to the surface • The tulips are *up*. **e** : in a forward place or position • Your package is *up* at the front desk. • We were *up* near the stage.

2 not used before a noun **a** : out of bed • Are the kids *up* yet? • We are *up* every morning at six. **b** : **AWAKE** • I was *up* all night studying for the test. — see also **UP AND ABOUT** (below)

3 not used before a noun : higher than usual • Gas prices are *up* again. • The river is *up*. • Attendance has been *up*. • The interest rate is *up* (by) three percent. • Profits are *up on* last year. [=profits are higher than they were last year]

4 always used before a noun : moving or going to a higher level • the *up* escalator

5 not used before a noun, informal : happening : going on • I could tell something was *up* by the look on her face. • Your order should have arrived. Let me find out *what's up*. • "Can I talk to you for a minute?" "Sure. *What's up*?" [=what do you want to talk to me about?] • (US) "Hi, Jim. *What's up*?" [=what's new?] "Not much." — often + *with* • Something's *up with* her. She looks upset. • Let me find out *what's up with* your order. • *What's up with* you? Why are you so grumpy? • "Did you hear that he quit his job?" "Yeah. *What's up with that*?" [=why did he quit his job?]

6 not used before a noun : having more points than an opponent : ahead of an opponent • The team was 10 points *up* [=it had a lead of 10 points] in the third quarter. • The team was *up* (by) two runs.

7 not used before a noun : operating or functioning • The system/network is *up* again. = The system/network is *up and running* again.

8 not used before a noun : beginning your turn in an activity • Get ready. You're *up* next.

9 not used before a noun, of time : at an end • Put your pencils down. Time is *up*. [=the time during which you are allowed to work on the test has ended] • His term as president is nearly *up*. [=has nearly ended]

10 not used before a noun [more ~; most ~] : happy or excited • She was feeling down, but now she's *up* again.

11 informal : having a lot of knowledge about something • She's always *up on* the latest fashions.

12 chiefly Brit, of a road : having the surface broken because repairs are being done • They've had the road *up* for weeks.

up against **1** : placed so as to be touching (something) • The bed was *up against* the wall. — see also *up against a/the wall* at **¹WALL** **2** : confronted with • The problem we are *up against* [=the problem that we have to deal with] is a difficult one.

up against it informal : in a difficult situation • With hardly any money or time left, we are really *up against it*!

up and about or chiefly US **up and around** : out of bed and doing things • She recently had surgery, but now she's *up and about* again. • I didn't expect you to be *up and around* this early.

up and down informal : sometimes good and sometimes bad • Her relationship with him is *up and down*. • They have an *up and down* relationship.

up for **1** informal : wanting to have or do (something) • I'm *up for* some Chinese food. • Are you *up for* watching a movie? • We're going out dancing tonight. Are you *up for* it? [=are you interested in joining us?] **2 a** — used to say that someone or something is or will be involved in a particular process and especially one that leads to a decision • His proposal is *up for* consideration. [=is being considered] • The budget is *up for* discussion in today's meeting. • She is *up for* reelection next year. [=she will be trying to get reelected next year] • He'll be *up for* parole in two more years. **b** — used to say that something is available to be bought • Our house is *up for* sale. [=our house is being sold] • items that are *up for* auction **3** : appearing in a court of law because of being accused of (a crime) • He was *up for* armed robbery.

up to **1 a** : capable of performing or dealing with (something) • She feels she is *up to* her role in the play. • She feels *up to* the challenge. • The patient is now *up to* seeing visitors. [=is now healthy enough to see visitors] **b** : good enough for (something) • Her performance wasn't *up to* her usual standards. [=wasn't as good as it usually is] • The hotel wasn't *up to* our expectations. [=wasn't as good as we expected it to be] • (Brit) My Spanish *isn't up to much*. [=my Spanish is not very good] **2** : doing something especially in a way that is secret and with intentions that are bad • What are they *up to*? • I know they're *up to* something, but I don't know what. • I'm sure he is *up to no good*. **3** — used to say who is responsible for making a choice or decision • "Do you want Chinese food tonight or Italian?" "It doesn't matter to me, so it's *up to* you." • The amount of your donation is entirely *up to* you. • It is *up to* you to decide. **4 a** — used to indicate the place or level that is reached by something • The water was *up to* our knees. = We were in water *up to* our knees. **b** : to or at (a specified amount, level, etc.) • Estimates for repairing the car ran from \$500 *up to* \$1,000. • The lottery is *up to* five million dollars. **c** : as many or as much as (a specified number or amount) • *Up to* eight people can play the game. • The car holds *up to* six people. • The ship can carry *up to* 10 tons. **5** : during the time or period before • *Up to* this point, we have been discussing our long-term goals. • *Up to* [=until] that time they had been fairly successful.

up to here informal — used to show that you have too much of something to deal with or that you are very annoyed by something and will not accept any more of it • I have work *up to here* to do. [=I have a lot of work to do] • *I've had it up to here with* your nonsense! [=I am sick of your nonsense]

up to par see **PAR**

up to snuff see **²SNUFF**

up to speed see **¹SPEED**

up to your ears see **¹EAR**

up to your eyeballs see **¹EYEBALL**

³up *prep*

1 : to, toward, or at a higher point on (something) • He climbed *up* the ladder. • She had to walk her bike *up* the hill. • The bathroom is *up* the stairs.

2 : along the course or path of (something) • Go *up* the street/road and turn left. • We walked *up* the street to meet them. • They live just *up* the block from us. • I paddled the canoe *up* the river. • The ship sailed *up* the coast. • Her office is all the way *up* the hall on the right. • He paced *up and down* the hall, waiting for news about his wife's operation.

up the creek (without a paddle) see CREEK

up the wazoo see WAZOO

up until or up till : during the time or period before • *Up until* now, everything has gone very well.

up yours *slang, offensive* — used as a rude reply to someone who has annoyed or angered you

4 *up* *noun, pl ups* [count] : a period or state of success, happiness, etc. — usually plural • The company has had more *ups* than downs this year. • We have had our *ups and downs*.

on the up chiefly Brit : moving toward an improved or better state • After a slow period, sales are *on the up*. [=sales are increasing]

on the up and up informal **1** *US* : honest and legal • The deal seems to be *on the up and up*. • I don't want to do anything dishonest. Let's keep everything *on the up and up*. **2** *Brit* : becoming more successful • He recently got a promotion and is *on the up and up*.

5 *up* *verb ups; upped* /'ʌpt/; *up-ping* [+ *obj*] : to make (something) higher • The restaurant *upped* [=increased] its prices.

up and informal : to do something specified in a sudden and unexpected way • One day, he just *upped and* left home. • Then she *ups and* marries some guy she'd just met. ♠ In U.S. English, *up and* is often used instead of *ups and* or *upped and*. • One day, he just *up and* left home. [=he just suddenly left home] • Then she *up and* marries some guy she'd just met.

up sticks see ¹STICK

up the ante see ¹ANTE

up-and-com-ing /'ʌpənd'kʌmɪŋ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : becoming more successful, important, and well known • an *up-and-coming* young actor • an *up-and-coming* new technology

up-beat /'ʌp,bɪ:t/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : positive and cheerful : happy and hopeful • I like a story with an *upbeat* ending. • I tried to stay *upbeat* about losing the election. — opposite DOWNBEAT

up-braid /'ʌp,breɪd/ *verb -braids; -braid-ed; -braid-ing* [+ *obj*] *formal* : to speak in an angry or critical way to (someone who has done something wrong) • She *upbraided* [=scolded] him for not offering to help his grandfather.

up-bring-ing /'ʌp,briŋɪŋ/ *noun, pl -ings* [count] : the way a child is raised : the care and teaching given to a child by parents or other people — usually singular • My wife had a very sheltered *upbringing*. • a religious/privileged *upbringing* • His grandmother saw to his *upbringing*.

up-chuck /'ʌp,tʃʌk/ *verb -chucks; -chucked; -chuck-ing* *US, informal* : VOMIT [+ *obj*] The dog *upchucked* the food. [no *obj*] I felt like I was about to *upchuck*.

up-com-ing /'ʌp,kʌmɪŋ/ *adj, usually used before a noun* : happening or appearing soon • the *upcoming* [=approaching] election/holiday • the symphony's *upcoming* season • *Upcoming* events are posted on our Web site.

up-coun-try /'ʌp,kʌntri/ *adj, old-fashioned* : of or relating to an area of land that is toward the middle of a country, north of a country, or outside of a particular region • *up-country* cooking • *up-country* farms • an *up-country* accent — *up-coun-try* /'ʌp'kʌntri/ *adv* • He hitchhiked *up-country* in search of work. • She lives *up-country*.

1 *up-date* /'ʌp,det/ *verb -dates; -dat-ed; -dat-ing* [+ *obj*]

1 a : to change (something) by including the most recent information • I need to *update* my address book. • *update* all the population figures **b** : to make (something) more modern • She wants to *update* her wardrobe. • an *updated* [=modern, up-to-date] version of a classic story

2 : to give (someone) the most recent information about something — usually + *on* • He *updated* us *on* his mother's health.

2 *up-date* /'ʌp,det/ *noun, pl -dates* [count]

1 : a report that includes the most recent information about something • I haven't heard the latest weather *update*. — often + *on* • We receive daily *updates on* homes for sale in the area.

2 : a change or addition to computer software that includes

the most recent information • You can download *updates* for free.

up-draft /'ʌp,dɹæft, Brit 'ʌp,dɹɑ:ft/ *noun, pl -drafts* [count] *technical* : an upward flow of air • hawks soaring on *updrafts*

up-end /'ʌp'end/ *verb -ends; -end-ed; -end-ing* [+ *obj*]

1 : to cause (something) to be upside down : to turn (something) over • He *upended* the bicycle to fix its flat tire. • I *upended* the bucket to use as a stool. • The security inspector *upended* my bag and dumped everything out.

2 : to cause (someone) to fall down or be turned over • A giant wave *upended* the surfers. • The midfielder was *upended* before he got the ball. — sometimes used figuratively especially in U.S. English • The new regulations could *upend* the entire industry. • The team was *upended* [=defeated] in the second round of the play-offs.

up-front /'ʌp'frʌnt/ *adj*

1 [more ~; most ~] : not keeping anything secret or hidden : honest and direct • I have been very *up-front* with you. • They were *up-front* about their financial position.

2 — used to refer to money that is paid in advance • The deal requires more *up-front* cash than I can come up with. • *up-front* fees — see also *up front* at ¹FRONT

1 *up-grade* /'ʌp'greɪd/ *verb -grades; -grad-ed; -grad-ing*

1 a [+ *obj*] : to make (something) better by including the most recent information or improvements • This course will help you to *upgrade* your computer skills. • Airports have *upgraded* security. • They've *upgraded* the quality of their service. • The city is *upgrading* the sewage treatment plant. • The office is *upgrading* the telephone system. • They *upgraded* the hotel to attract more business patrons. **b** [no *obj*] : to choose to have or use something more modern, useful, etc. — often + *to* • You might want to *upgrade to* a cable modem. • We reserved a compact car, with the option of *upgrading to* a midsize car.

2 : to get something (such as a seat on an airplane or a room in a hotel) that is better than what you had originally — often + *to* [no *obj*] We were able to *upgrade to* first class. [+ *obj*] Our seats were *upgraded to* first class. [=we were given first-class seats] • We had reserved a double room, but the hotel *upgraded* us *to* a suite.

3 [+ *obj*] : to give (someone or something) a higher rank or grade — often + *to* • They *upgraded* my job classification to level four, which means I get a pay increase. • The restaurant was *upgraded* from three *to* four stars. • The storm has been *upgraded to* a hurricane. • The doctors *upgraded* the patient's condition from "serious" *to* "good." — opposite DOWNGRADE

— *up-grad-able* or *up-grade-able* /'ʌp'greɪdəbəl/ *adj* • *upgradable* hardware

2 *up-grade* /'ʌp,greɪd/ *noun, pl -grades* [count]

1 : an area or surface that goes upward : an upward slope • a slight *upgrade* in the roadway • a gradual *upgrade*

2 : an occurrence in which one thing is replaced by something better, newer, more valuable, etc. • software/system *upgrades* • The hotel offered us a room *upgrade*. • seat *upgrades*

up-heav-al /'ʌp'hi:vəl/ *noun, pl -als*

1 : a major change or period of change that causes a lot of conflict, confusion, anger, etc. [noncount] The civil rights movement marked a period of social *upheaval* in the U.S. • the emotional *upheaval* of divorce [count] a period of cultural and social *upheavals*

2 *technical* : an occurrence in which a part of the Earth's surface moves up forcefully [count] The island was created by an *upheaval* of the ocean floor. [noncount] The lake was formed by geologic *upheaval*.

1 *up-hill* /'ʌp'hɪl/ *adv* : toward the top of a hill or mountain • It is easier to ride a bicycle downhill than *uphill*.

2 *up-hill* /'ʌp,hɪl/ *adj*

1 : going or sloping up toward the top of a hill or mountain • The path is *uphill*. • an *uphill* climb

2 *always used before a noun* : not easy : difficult to do, deal with, etc. • It has been an *uphill* battle/fight/struggle for her to get an education.

up-hold /'ʌp'hould/ *verb -holds; -held* /-'held/; -hold-ing [+ *obj*]

1 : to support or defend (something, such as a law) • He took an oath to *uphold* the Constitution. • They have a responsibility to *uphold* the law.

2 : to judge (a legal decision) to be correct : to decide not to change (a verdict) • The Court of Appeals *upheld* his conviction.

U

– **up·hold·er** *noun*, *pl* -ers [count] • *upholders* of democracy

up·hol·ster /ˌʌpˈhoulstər/ *verb* -sters; -stered; -ster-ing [+ *obj*] : to put a covering of cloth, leather, etc., on (a piece of furniture, such as a couch or chair) • The couch was *upholstered* with a bright, floral fabric.

– **up·hol·stered** *adj* • an *upholstered* chair — **up·hol·ster·er** /ˌʌpˈhoulstərər/ *noun*, *pl* -ers [count] • We took the chair to an *upholsterer* to have it re-covered.

up·hol·stery /ˌʌpˈhoulstəri/ *noun* [noncount]

1 : the cloth, leather, etc., that covers a couch, chair, etc. • an old chair that needs new *upholstery* • a car with leather *upholstery* [=with seats that are covered in leather]

2 : the process or business of covering pieces of furniture with cloth, leather, etc. • He learned *upholstery* from his father.

up·keep /ˌʌpˈkiːp/ *noun* [noncount] : the process of keeping something in good condition : the care or maintenance of buildings, equipment, etc. • Who is responsible for the *upkeep* of these buildings? • Once your car gets that old, the cost of *upkeep* can get very expensive. • The yard requires very little *upkeep*. • We sold our horse because we could no longer afford its *upkeep*.

up·land /ˌʌplənd/ *noun*, *pl* -lands [count] : a region of high land especially far from the sea — usually plural • the *uplands* of eastern Turkey • The sheep graze in the *uplands*.

– **upland** *adj*, always used before a noun • an *upland* forest/species

¹**up·lift** /ˌʌpˈlɪft/ *verb* -lifts; -lift-ed; -lift-ing [+ *obj*]

1 : to make (someone) happy or hopeful • music that *uplifts* the soul

2 : to lift (something) up : to raise (something) to a higher position • geologic forces that *uplifted* the mountains

²**up·lift** /ˌʌpˈlɪft/ *noun*

1 [singular] : an increase in amount or number : RISE • an *uplift* in prices/sales

2 : an increase in happiness or hopefulness [singular] The beautiful spring day gave us a much-needed *uplift*. [=lift] [noncount] searching for spiritual *uplift*

uplifted *adj*

1 : raised or turned upward • *uplifted* faces/hands

2 : made happier or more hopeful • *uplifted* spirits • We felt *uplifted* by the experience.

uplifting *adj* [more ~; most ~] : causing happy and hopeful feelings • an *uplifting* sermon • *uplifting* music

¹**up·load** /ˌʌpˈloud/ *verb* -loads; -load-ed; -load-ing [+ *obj*]

computers : to move or copy (a file, program, etc.) from a computer or device to a usually larger computer or computer network • She *uploaded* the pictures from her digital camera to her computer. • *upload* files to the Internet — compare DOWNLOAD

²**up·load** /ˌʌpˈloud/ *noun*, *pl* -loads [count] *computers* : a file, program, etc., that is uploaded • a data *upload*

up·mar·ket /ˌʌpˈmɑːkət/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : made for or appealing to people who have a lot of money • *upmarket* [= (US) *upscale*] restaurants/shops

– **upmarket** *adv* • The brand is *going/moving upmarket*. [=starting to sell products for people with more money]

up·on /əˈpɑːn/ *prep*, *formal*

1 : ON • He carefully placed the vase *upon* the table. • They built their city *upon* a cliff overlooking the sea. • She was seated *upon* a throne. • an assault *upon* traditional values • She was admitted to his office immediately *upon* her arrival. • That kind of behavior is frowned *upon*.

2 — used to say that someone or something is very close or has arrived • The enemy was suddenly *upon* us. • The holidays are nearly *upon* us. [=the holidays are nearly here; the holidays have nearly begun] • Before we knew it, the date of the wedding was *upon* us.

3 — used to emphasize something that is repeated many times • We removed layer *upon* layer [=many layers] of old paint from the paneling. • She studied for hour *upon* hour. [=for many hours] • thousands *upon* thousands of people

¹**up·per** /ˌʌpər/ *adj*, always used before a noun

1 **a** : located above another or others of the same kind • the tree's *upper* branches • *upper* and lower front teeth • the *upper* jaw • her *upper* extremities/limbs [=her arms and hands] • the wing's *upper* and lower surfaces • the ship's *upper* and lower decks • Who will sleep on the *upper* berth? • The *upper* stories/floors are occupied by offices. • the *upper* layer of the Earth's crust • temperatures in the mid to *upper* 20s **b** : located at or near the top • Write your name on the *upper* left-

hand corner of the page. • relief of *upper* back pain • exercises to improve *upper* body strength [=strength in the arms, shoulders, neck, and back] • the mountain's *upper* and lower slopes • the *upper* atmosphere • There is no *upper* age limit for participation. • He's at the *upper* end of the pay scale. • The *upper* two-thirds of the wall has been painted.

2 : located toward the north • a restaurant in *upper* Manhattan • an apartment on *upper* Fifth Avenue • the *upper* Great Lakes region

3 : above another or others in position, rank, or order • the *upper* echelons of society • *upper*-level executives • *upper* management • the *upper* middle class

stiff upper lip see ¹STIFF

²**upper** *noun*, *pl* -pers [count]

1 : the parts of a shoe or boot above the sole • leather *uppers*

2 *informal* : a drug that gives you more energy; especially : AMPHETAMINE • He admitted he was on *uppers*. — compare DOWNER

on your uppers *Brit*, *old-fashioned* + *informal* : having very little money • He'd come to me for money whenever he was *on his uppers*.

up·per·case /ˌʌpərˈkeɪs/ *adj* : having as its typical form A, B, C rather than a, b, c : CAPITAL • *uppercase* letters • *uppercase* D — compare LOWERCASE

– **uppercase** *noun* [noncount] • abbreviations written in *uppercase*

upper class *noun*, *pl* ~ **classes** [count] : a social class that is above the middle class : the highest social class • a popular pastime among the *upper classes* • a member of the *upper class* — compare LOWER CLASS, MIDDLE CLASS, UNDERCLASS, WORKING CLASS

– **upper-class** *adj* • *upper-class* families/neighborhoods

up·per·class·man /ˌʌpərˈklæsmən, *Brit* ˌʌpərˈklaːsmən/ *noun*, *pl* -men /-mən/ [count] *US* : a student in the third or fourth year of high school or college • Only *upperclassmen* can go off-campus for lunch. — compare UNDERCLASSMAN

upper crust *noun*

the upper crust *informal* : the highest social class or group : UPPER CLASS • *the upper crust* of American society • *the* wealthy *upper crust*

– **upper-crust** *adj* • *upper-crust* Americans/schools

up·per·cut /ˌʌpərˈkʌt/ *noun*, *pl* -cuts [count] *boxing* : a punch directed upward with a bent arm • He hit his opponent with an *uppercut* to the chin.

upper hand *noun*

the upper hand : the position of having power or being in control in a particular situation • He always has to have *the upper hand*. — sometimes used figuratively • The infection was gaining *the upper hand* [=was becoming worse] and the patient's condition was deteriorating.

up·per·most /ˌʌpərˈmoust/ *adj* : highest in position or importance • the *uppermost* [=topmost] branches of the tree • Safety was *uppermost* in their minds. [=safety was the thing they were most concerned about]

– **uppermost** *adv*

upper school *noun*, *pl* ~ -schools [count, noncount] : a school or part of a school for students between the ages of 14 and 18

up·pi·ty /ˌʌpəti/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *informal* + *disapproving* : acting as if you are more important than you really are, do not have to do what you are told to do, etc. • an *uppity* sales clerk • Don't get *uppity* with me.

up·raised /ˌʌpˈreɪzd/ *adj* : raised or lifted up • He danced with his arms *upraised*.

¹**up·right** /ˌʌpˈraɪt/ *adj*

1 **a** : positioned to be straight up : VERTICAL • an *upright* posture • Put your seat back in the *upright* position. • the fox's *upright* ears • The container should be kept *upright* to prevent leaks. **b** — used to describe something that is tall rather than wide • an *upright* freezer • an *upright* vacuum cleaner • an *upright* shrub

2 [more ~; most ~] : always behaving in an honest way : having high moral standards • an *upright* citizen

– **upright** *adv* • There wasn't enough room to stand *upright*, so we had to bend over. • an early human ancestor that walked *upright* • She *sat bolt upright* [=she sat up straight] in bed when I entered the room.

²**upright** *noun*, *pl* -rights [count]

1 : a board or pole placed in a vertical position to support something • The *uprights* of the structure were embedded in concrete.

2 *American football* : GOALPOST — usually plural • He

kicked the ball through the *uprights*.

3 : UPRIGHT PIANO

upright piano *noun*, *pl* ~ **-nos** [*count*] : a piano whose strings run from the top to the bottom — called also *upright*

up-ri-sing /'ʌp,raɪzɪŋ/ *noun*, *pl* **-ings** [*count*] : a usually violent effort by many people to change the government or leader of a country : REBELLION • an armed *uprising* • The government quickly put down the *uprising*.

up-riv-er /'ʌp,ri:və/ *adv* : toward the start of a river • The salmon swim *upriver* [=upstream] to spawn.

up-roar /'ʌp,rɔə/ *noun*, *pl* **-roars** : a situation in which many people are upset, angry, or disturbed by something [*noncount*] There was a lot of public *uproar* over the proposed jail. [*count*] There have been *uproars* in the past over similar proposals. • The proposal caused an *uproar*. • The town was *in an uproar* over the proposal to build a jail.

up-roar-i-ous /'ʌp,rori:əs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : very noisy • *uproarious* laughter

2 : extremely funny • an *uproarious* comedy

— **up-roar-i-ous-ly** *adv* • an *uproariously* funny comedy

up-root /'ʌp,ru:t/ *verb* **-roots**; **-root-ed**; **-root-ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to pull (a plant and its root) completely out of the ground • *uproot* a vine • Many trees were *uprooted* by the storm.

2 : to remove (something) completely • Will we ever be able to *uproot* racial prejudice?

3 : to make (someone) leave home and move to a different place • families *uprooted* by war • Taking the job would mean *uprooting* my family.

¹**up-scale** /'ʌp'skeɪl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *US* : relating to or appealing to people who have a lot of money • *upscale* [=up-market] restaurants/supermarkets • an *upscale* neighborhood — **upscale** *adv* • The brand is *going/moving upscale*. [=starting to sell products for people with more money]

²**upscale** *verb* **-scales**; **-scaled**; **-scal-ing** [+ *obj*] *US* : to make (something) more appealing to people who have a lot of money • *upscaled* merchandise

¹**up-set** /'ʌp'set/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : angry or unhappy • I was feeling *upset* by/about the whole experience. • There's no point in getting all *upset* about it. • I try not to let her make me *upset*. • She was too *upset* to speak to him. • I'm *upset* that you didn't call. • I was so *upset* with him, I didn't call him for two weeks.

2 ♦ If you have an *upset stomach*, you have an unpleasant feeling in your stomach because of illness or because of something you have eaten. • I had an *upset stomach* after eating all those cookies. • My stomach was *upset* and I felt like I might throw up.

²**up-set** /'ʌp'set/ *verb* **-sets**; **-set**; **-set-ting** [+ *obj*]

1 : to make (someone) unhappy, worried, etc. • That remark you made really *upset* me. • Don't *upset* yourself over it. • It *upsets* him that he can do nothing to help. • A lot of people were *upset* by the court's decision. • It *upsets* me to think I might never see him again.

2 : to cause an unpleasant feeling in (your stomach) • Spicy food *upsets* my stomach.

3 : to cause (something) to be unable to continue in the expected way • His sudden arrival *upset* [=disrupted] our plans.

4 : to defeat (someone who was expected to defeat you) • The heavyweight challenger *upset* the reigning champion in the third round. • She was *upset* in the primary.

5 : to cause (something) to fall • He accidentally bumped the table and *upset* a lamp.

upset the apple cart *informal* : to do something that changes or spoils a plan, situation, system, etc. • Let's not *upset the apple cart* by introducing new rules.

— **upsetting** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] • It was a very *upsetting* situation.

³**up-set** /'ʌp'set/ *noun*, *pl* **-sets**

1 [*count*] : an occurrence in which a game, contest, etc., is won by a person or team that was expected to lose • In a major *upset*, he took the gold medal. • Her victory in the election was a big *upset*. • an *upset* victory

2 : an unpleasant feeling of illness in your stomach [*noncount*] Spicy foods can cause stomach *upset*. [*count*] a minor stomach *upset*

3 : a period of worry and unhappiness caused by something that has happened [*count*] An emotional *upset* can affect your physical health. [*noncount*] a period of emotional *upset*

up-shift /'ʌp,ʃɪft/ *verb* **-shifts**; **-shift-ed**; **-shift-ing** [*no obj*] : to put the engine of a vehicle into a higher gear • She *upshifted* into fifth gear. — opposite **DOWNSHIFT**

— **upshift** *noun*, *pl* **-shifts** [*count*] • an *upshift* into fifth gear

up-shot /'ʌp,ʃɔ:t/ *noun*

the upshot : the final result or outcome of a process, discussion, etc. • *The upshot* is that we'll see him Thursday. — often + *of* • *The upshot of* the decision is that the park will be closed.

¹**up-side** /'ʌp,sɑɪd/ *noun*, *pl* **-sides** [*count*] : a part of something that is good or desirable : an advantage or benefit • One *upside* to the new house is its location. • **On the upside** [=when you consider the good parts or advantages], the car does have a lot of trunk space. — often + *of* • The *upside of* moving would be a shorter commute to work. — opposite **DOWNSIDE**

²**up-side** /'ʌp'saɪd/ *prep*, *US*, *informal* : on or against the side of (something) • She smacked him *upside the head*. [=she hit/slapped him on the side of his head]

up-side down /'ʌp,sɑɪd'daʊn/ *adv* : with the top at the bottom and the bottom at the top : placed so that the end that should be at the top is at the bottom • You hung the picture *upside down*! • To remove the plant, turn the pot *upside down* and tap gently on the bottom to loosen it. • The baby was holding the book *upside down*.

turn (something) upside down *informal* : to make (something) very untidy • I *turned* the room *upside down* looking for my car keys. • The house was *turned upside down* while the renovations were under way. — often used figuratively • His whole world was *turned upside down* when his mother died.

— **upside-down** *adj* • The sculpture looked like an *upside-down* pyramid. • That flag is *upside-down*.

upside-down cake *noun*, *pl* ~ **cakes** [*count*, *noncount*] *US* : a cake that is baked with a layer of fruit (such as pineapple) on the bottom and then turned over and served with the fruit side up

up-skill /'ʌp'skɪl/ *verb* **-skills**; **-skilled**; **-skill-ing** [+ *obj*] *Brit* : to improve the job skills of (someone) • *upskilling* the workforce

up-slope /'ʌp'sloʊp/ *adv*, *US* : toward the top of a hill or mountain : up a slope • The field extends *upslope* away from the water. • moving *upslope* — opposite **DOWNSLOPE**

— **upslope** *adj* • *upslope* winds — **upslope** *noun*, *pl* **-slopes** [*count*] • We had to climb a long *upslope*.

¹**up-stage** /'ʌp'steɪdʒ/ *adv* : toward the back part of a stage • The actor moved *upstage*.

²**up-stage** /'ʌp'steɪdʒ/ *verb* **-stag-es**; **-staged**; **-stag-ing** [+ *obj*] : to take attention away from (someone or something else, such as another performer) • The children *upstaged* the adult performers. [=people watched the children more than the adults] • We don't want the flower girl *upstaging* the bride. • My apple pie was *upstaged* by her chocolate cake.

¹**up-stairs** /'ʌp'steəz/ *adv*

1 : on or to a higher floor of a building • When you go *upstairs*, bring these towels with you. • My in-laws live *upstairs*. • She was on her way *upstairs* when she heard a car drive up.

2 *informal* : in the head : mentally or intellectually • Some say he's a little slow *upstairs*. [=he's mentally slow; he's not intelligent]

kick (someone) upstairs see ¹**KICK**

²**up-stairs** /'ʌp'steəz/ *adj*, *always used before a noun* : located on a higher floor of a building • You can use the *upstairs* bathroom.

³**up-stairs** /'ʌp'steəz/ *noun*

the upstairs : the upper floors of a building • We've decided to rent out *the upstairs*. • We're having *the upstairs* carpeted.

up-stand-ing /'ʌp'stændɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : honest and respectable • *upstanding* members of the community

2 : standing straight up • a stiff, *upstanding* collar

be upstanding *Brit*, *formal* — used to tell the people in a place to stand up • “Ladies and gentlemen, please *be upstanding* for the national anthem.”

up-start /'ʌp,stɑ:t/ *noun*, *pl* **-starts** [*count*]

1 *disapproving* : a person who has recently begun an activity, become successful, etc., and who does not show proper respect for older and more experienced people • a young *upstart* from Harvard who thinks he knows more than the boss

2 *chiefly US* : a newly successful person, business, etc. — often used before another noun • *upstart* Internet companies

up-state /'ʌp,stet/ *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : the northern part of a state • She's from *upstate*.

— **up-state** /'ʌp'stet/ *adj*, *always used before a noun* • He

lives in *upstate* New York. — **up-state** /'ʌp'steɪt/ *adv* • They moved *upstate*.

up-stream /'ʌp'stri:m/ *adv* : in the direction opposite to the flow in a stream, river, etc. : toward the source of a stream, river, etc. • salmon swimming *upstream* [=against the current] to spawn • The canoe capsized *upstream* of the dam.

— **upstream** *adj* • *upstream* farms

up-surge /'ʌp,sɜ:dʒ/ *noun, pl -surges* [count] : a rapid or sudden increase or rise — usually + *in* or *of* • a recent *up-surge* in crime • an *upsurge* of popularity • an *upsurge* of anger

up-swept /'ʌp,swept/ *adj* : directed upward in a curved shape • *upswept* hair • *upswept* wings

up-swing /'ʌp,swɪŋ/ *noun, pl -swings* [count]

1 : a situation in which something is increasing or becoming better • Business is *on the upswing*. [=improving] — often + *in* • an *upswing* in profits

2 : an upward swing • an *upswing* of the arms

up-take /'ʌp,teɪk/ *noun*

1 *technical* : the process by which something is taken in by the body, a plant, etc. [noncount] oxygen *uptake* by the body/tissue/cells • the plant's *uptake* of water [singular] a rapid *uptake* of liquid

2 [noncount] *informal* : the ability to learn new things, to understand what is happening or being said, etc. • Being *slow on the uptake* [=slow to comprehend], I didn't realize what was going on at first. • She's pretty *quick on the uptake*.

up-tempo /'ʌp,tempə/ *adj* : played very fast : having a fast tempo • *up-tempo* music • an aggressive, *up-tempo* style of basketball

up-tick /'ʌp,tɪk/ *noun, pl -ticks* [count] *US* : a small increase or rise — often + *in* • an *uptick* in sales/hiring

up-tight /'ʌp'taɪt/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : nervous or worried and tending to become upset about something that does not make other people upset • If our flight is delayed, there's nothing we can do. There's no reason to get so *uptight* about it.

2 : unable or unwilling to relax and express feelings openly : too concerned about behaving in a socially proper way • I don't know why people are so *uptight* about sex. • *uptight* conservatives

up-time /'ʌp,tɑɪm/ *noun* [noncount] : time during which a computer or machine is working • We need to maximize network *uptime*.

up-to-date *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : including the latest information • *up-to-date* [=current] maps

2 : based on or using the newest information, methods, etc. • *up-to-date* styles • *up-to-date* [=modern] methods

up-to-the-minute *adj*

1 : including the very latest information • *up-to-the-minute* news

2 : based on or using the newest information, methods, etc. • *up-to-the-minute* equipment/information

¹**up-town** /'ʌp,təʊn/ *noun, pl -towns* [count] *chiefly US* : the upper part of a city or town : the part of a city or town that is away from the central part — usually singular • They took a taxi from *uptown* to downtown. • a fire in the city's *uptown* — compare DOWNTOWN

²**up-town** /'ʌp,təʊn/ *adv, chiefly US* : to, toward, or in the upper part of a city or town • We walked *uptown* to his apartment. • He lives *uptown*.

— **uptown** *adj, always used before a noun* • *uptown* Manhattan • an *uptown* theater

up-turn /'ʌp,tɜ:n/ *noun, pl -turns* [count] : an increase or improvement — usually singular • an *upturn* in the economy • an *upturn* in sales

up-turned /'ʌp,tɜ:nd/ *adj*

1 : turned so that the bottom part is on top : turned upside down • an *upturned* trash can • an *upturned* boat

2 : turned or directed upward • *upturned* faces • a hat with *upturned* brim • a bird with an *upturned* bill

¹**up-ward** (*chiefly US*) /'ʌpwəd/ or *chiefly Brit up-wards* /'ʌpwədz/ *adv*

1 : from a lower place or level to a higher place or level • The road gradually rose *upward*. • The temperature is heading *upward*. [=it is getting hotter]

2 : toward the ceiling, sky, etc. • The hawk spiraled *upward*. • He pointed *upward*. • She directed my gaze *upward*.

3 : toward a higher or better condition or position • They are moving *upward* socially and economically. • moving *upward* in the corporate world

4 : to a larger amount : to a higher number • Prices shot *up-*

ward. • The inflation rate was adjusted *upward*. • Attendance figures have been heading *upward*.

onward and upward see ¹ONWARD

upwards of also US upward of : more than (an amount or number) • *upwards of* half a million people • He won *upwards of* \$2,000.

²**upward** *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : moving or going from a lower place or level to a higher place or level • *upward* movement/flow • an *upward* curve • in an *upward* direction

2 : moving or going toward the ceiling, sky, etc. • the plant's *upward* growth

3 : changing to a larger amount or higher number • an *upward* revision of the vote tally

— **up-ward-ly** *adv*

upwardly mobile *adj* [more ~; most ~] : moving or able to move into a higher social or economic position • *upwardly mobile* professionals

— **upward mobility** *noun* [noncount] • She wants a job with more *upward mobility*.

up-wind /'ʌp'wɪnd/ *adv* : in the direction that is opposite to the direction of the wind • We sailed *upwind*. [=into the wind] — often + *of* • We were standing *upwind of* the fire.

— **upwind** *adj* • the *upwind* side of the fire

ura-ni-um /ju'reɪnɪjəm/ *noun* [noncount] : a radioactive element that is used to make nuclear energy and nuclear weapons

Ura-nus /'jʊərənəs, ju'reɪnəs/ *noun* [singular] : the planet that is seventh in order from the sun

ur-ban /'əbən/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : of or relating to cities and the people who live in them • *urban* life/culture • *urban* housing • an *urban* neighborhood — opposite RURAL

ur-bane /,ə'beɪn/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : polite and confident • an *urbane* diplomat • The dialogue is witty and *urbane*.

2 : fashionable and somewhat formal • the hotel's *urbane* sophistication

— **ur-bane-ly** *adv* • a television show with *urbanely* witty dialogue — **ur-ban-i-ty** /ə'bænəti/ *noun* [noncount]

ur-ban-i-za-tion also *Brit ur-ban-i-sa-tion* /,əbənə'zeɪʃən/ *noun* [noncount] : the process by which towns and cities are formed and become larger as more and more people begin living and working in central areas • rapid *urbanization* • the effects/process of *urbanization*

— **ur-ban-ize** also *Brit ur-ban-ise* /'əbə,naɪz/ *verb -iz-es; -ized; -iz-ing* [no obj] The country/region is rapidly *urbanizing*. [+ obj] farmland that is being *urbanized*

— **urbanized** also *Brit urbanised* *adj* [more ~; most ~] • an *urbanized* area/society

urban legend *noun, pl ~ -ends* [count] : a story about an unusual event or occurrence that many people believe is true but that is not true — called also *urban myth*

urban renewal *noun* [noncount] : a process by which old buildings or buildings that are in bad condition in part of a city are replaced or repaired • an area undergoing *urban renewal* — often used before another noun • an *urban renewal* plan/project

urban sprawl *noun* [noncount] : a situation in which large stores, groups of houses, etc., are built in an area around a city that formerly had few people living in it • efforts to stop/prevent *urban sprawl*

ur-chin /'ɜ:tʃən/ *noun, pl -chins* [count]

1 *old-fashioned* : a usually poor and dirty child who annoys people or causes minor trouble • a street *urchin* [=an urchin who lives in a city]

2 : SEA URCHIN

Ur-du /'uədu, 'ədu/ *noun* [noncount] : the official language of Pakistan which is also used in parts of India

-ure *noun suffix*

1 : act : process • *exposure* • *failure* • *closure*

2 : a group of people who do a specified job or activity • *legislature*

urea /ju'ri:ə/ *noun* [noncount] *technical* : a substance that contains nitrogen, is found in the urine of mammals and some fish, and is used in some kinds of fertilizer

ure-thra /ju'ri:θrə/ *noun, pl -thras* [count] *medical* : the tube through which urine moves from the bladder and out of the body and that in men and male animals is also the means by which semen leaves the body

— **ure-thral** /ju'ri:θrəl/ *adj*

¹**urge** /'ɜ:dʒ/ *verb urg-es; urged; urg-ing* [+ obj]

1 : to ask people to do or support (something) in a way that shows that you believe it is very important • He is continually *urging* reform. • The rescuers *urged* that we remain calm. • The group is *urging* a ban on the chemical. = The group is *urging* that the chemical be banned.

2 : to try to persuade (someone) in a serious way *to do* something • an editorial *urging* readers *to vote* • I *urge* you *to reconsider*.

3 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to use force or pressure to move (someone or something) in a particular direction or at a particular speed • A hand on her back *urged* her forward.

urge on [*phrasal verb*] **urge** (someone or something) **on** : to encourage (someone or something) to move ahead, to do something, etc. • riders *urging* their horses *on* • I wanted to quit but she *urged* me *on*.

²urge *noun, pl urges* [*count*] : a strong need or desire to have or do something • the *urge* for something sweet • He fought the *urge* to cry/laugh. • creative/sexual *urges*

ur-gent /'ædʒənt/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 : very important and needing immediate attention • an *ur-gent* [=pressing] need for food/reform • We've come to deliver an *urgent* message. • an *urgent* appeal/request for assistance • an *urgent care* center/facility [=a place where people who are sick or injured can go for immediate treatment instead of a hospital emergency room]

2 : showing that something is very important and needs immediate attention • He addressed us in an *urgent* manner. • An *urgent* voice came over the intercom, telling us to leave the building immediately.

— **ur-gen-cy** /'ædʒənsi/ *noun* [*noncount*] • I'm not convinced of the *urgency* of the problem. [=I'm not convinced that the problem is urgent] — **ur-gent-ly** *adv* • Volunteers are *urgently* needed to help with the crisis. • speaking/calling *urgently*

urging *noun* [*noncount*] : the act of trying to persuade someone in a serious way to do something • At the *urging* of her teacher, she chose to pursue a career in journalism.

uri-nal /'jərən/, *Brit* ju'raɪn/ *noun, pl -nals* [*count*] : a toilet that is attached to a wall especially in a public bathroom for men to urinate into

uri-nary /'jərənəri, *Brit* 'juərənrɪ/ *adj, always used before a noun, medical*

1 : relating to the parts of the body in which urine is produced and through which urine passes • the *urinary* bladder/tract • a *urinary* infection

2 : relating to or used for urine • a *urinary* catheter

uri-nate /'jərənert/ *verb -nates; -nat-ed; -nat-ing* [*no obj*] *medical* : to send urine out of the body

— **uri-na-tion** /,jərənertʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] • Symptoms include nausea and frequent *urination*.

urine /'jərən/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : waste liquid that collects in the bladder before leaving the body

URL /,juː,ɑː'el/ *noun* [*count*] *computers* : the letters and symbols (such as <http://www.Merriam-Webster.com>) that are the address of a Web site • What's the site's *URL*? ♦ *URL* is an abbreviation of "Uniform Resource Locator."

urn /'ɜːn/ *noun, pl urns* [*count*]

1 : a container that is often shaped like a vase with a closed top and that is used to hold the ashes of someone who has been cremated

2 : a closed container with a faucet near the bottom which is used to serve hot drinks • a *coffee urn*

Ur-sa Ma-jor /,əsə'meɪdʒə/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the group of stars in the northern sky that includes the stars that form the Big Dipper

Ur-sa Mi-nor /,əsə'maɪnə/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the group of stars in the northern sky that includes the stars that form the Little Dipper

us /'ʌs/ *pronoun, objective form of WE*

1 — used to refer to the speaker and another person or group of people as the indirect object or direct object of a verb • It was nice of you to invite *us*. • It's fine with *us* if you want to bring a friend. • There's nobody in here but *us* kids. • Someone please help *us*! • It's just the two of *us* for dinner. • They told *us* it would be a few minutes, so why don't we all wait outside? • *All of us* [=we all] will be affected by these changes. • It's an exciting time for *all of us*.

2 : people in general • Does God walk among *us*?

3 *Brit, informal* : ME • Give *us* a kiss.

U.S. or US *abbr* United States (of America)

U.S.A. or USA *abbr* United States of America

us-able /'juːzəbəl/ *adj* : capable of being used : in good enough condition to be used • *usable* farmland • Is any of this junk *usable*?

USAF *abbr* United States Air Force

us-age /'juːsɪdʒ/ *noun*

1 [*noncount*] **a** : the act of using something • Seat belt *usage* in the state is now mandatory. • *Usage* [=use] of this exit is prohibited. • drug *usage* among college students **b** : the way that something is used • Restaurant dishes must be able to withstand rough *usage*. **c** : the amount of something that is used • efforts to reduce water/energy *usage* **d** : how often something is used • increasing *usage* of the nation's highways

2 : the way that words and phrases are used in a language [*noncount*] This word occurs in casual/common/popular *usage*. • differences between British and American *usage* • educated/formal *usage* • modern/current *usage* • a *usage* manual/guide/dictionary [*count*] I came across an uncommon *usage* I'd like to discuss with you.

USB /,juː,es'biː/ *noun* [*noncount*] *computers* : a system for connecting a computer to another device (such as a printer, keyboard, or mouse) by using a special kind of cord • a *USB* cable/port ♦ *USB* is an abbreviation of "Universal Serial Bus."

USDA *abbr* United States Department of Agriculture

¹use /'juːz/ *verb* **us-es; used; us-ing**

1 [*+ obj*] : to do something with (an object, machine, person, method, etc.) in order to accomplish a task, do an activity, etc. • I need to *use* the phone when you're done. • The machine is easy to *use*. • After the accident, she could no longer *use* her legs. • We *use* only organic fertilizers on our farm. • They make paper *using* traditional Japanese methods. • He *used* his time there well/wisely. • Don't *use* that kind of language with me! [=don't talk to me in that way] • Will you *use* [=hire, employ] a contractor or oversee the construction of the house yourself? • Which accountant/bank do you *use*? • Maybe if we *use our heads* [=think carefully], we can figure this out. — often followed by *to + verb* • *Use* this knife *to cut* the bread. • More and more people are *using* the Internet *to find/get* information. — often + *for* • She *used* the money *for* college. — often + *as* • We *use* that room *as* an office. • The word "place" can be *used as* a noun or verb.

2 [*+ obj*] : to take (something) from a supply in order to function or to do a task • a new kind of light bulb that *uses* very little electricity • Did you *use* all the eggs? • Who *used* the last match? • The car *uses* a lot of gas. — often + *up* • Did you *use up* all the eggs?

3 [*+ obj*] — used to say that something is needed or to ask if something is needed or wanted; usually used with *can* or *could* • *Can* you *use* this lamp? I don't want it anymore. • The house *could use* [=it needs] a coat of paint. • You look like you *could use* some sleep. [=you look like you need to sleep; you look tired] • I sure *could use* some help.

4 a [*+ obj*] : to eat, drink, etc., (something) regularly • I don't *use* [=more commonly *take*] sugar in my tea. • She stopped *using* alcohol/drugs a year ago. **b** [*no obj*] *informal* : to take illegal drugs regularly • How long has he been *using*?

5 [*+ obj*] **a** : to treat (someone) well in order to get something for yourself • I realized that she was just *using* me (for my money). **b** : to treat (someone who is generous or helpful) unfairly • I'd been driving them all over the place, and I was beginning to feel *used*.

use up [*phrasal verb*] **use up** (something) or **use** (something) **up** : to take (all of something) from a supply • She quickly *used up* (all of) her inheritance. • Don't shower too long and *use up* (all) the hot water. — see also ¹USE 2 (above)

— see also USED, USED TO

²use /'juːs/ *noun, pl us-es*

1 [*noncount*] **a** : the act of using something • The knife has become dull from constant *use*. [=from being used very often over a period of time] • Two players were suspended for illegal drug *use*. — often + *of* • The law requires the *use of* seat belts. [=the law requires people to wear seat belts] • We talked about the author's *use of* irony in the novel. **b** : the state of being used • All of the computers are currently *in use*. [=are currently being used] • When did the word first *come into use*? [=when was the word first used?] • Typewriters have practically *gone out of use*. [=almost no people use typewriters anymore]

2 a [*count*] : a way in which something is or can be used • This tool has many *uses*. [=you can do many things with this tool] • Doctors have found a new *use* for the drug. • According to the dictionary, the word has two *uses*. • The technique

has its uses [=the technique is useful in some ways], but better methods are available. **b** [singular] : a way to use something or someone — usually + *for* • I thought you might be able to find a *use for* this lamp. [=I thought that you might be able to use this lamp for some purpose] • Thanks for volunteering. I'm sure we'll be able to find a *use for* someone with your skills and experience. • Do you have a/any *use for* this old computer?

3 [noncount] : the opportunity or right to use something • She gave me the *use of* her car [=she allowed me to use her car] while she was away. • The pool is **for the use of** hotel guests only. [=only hotel guests are allowed to swim in the pool]

4 [noncount] — used to say that something or someone is or is not helpful or useful • It's too small to be of *use*. • I don't think that dreams are of much *use* in predicting the future. [=I don't think that dreams help people predict the future] • Go home and rest. You're no *use* to us if you're sick. [=you cannot help us if you're sick] • He's been of no *use* at all to me. [=he hasn't helped me at all] • I felt that I could be of some *use* to her. [=that I could help her in some way] • There's no *use* (in) worrying about the past. [=worrying about the past will not help, make anything better, etc.] • "You should talk to her." "What's the *use*?" [=talking to her will not help] She's not going to change her mind." • What's the *use of* trying? It won't help.

5 [noncount] : the ability or power to use something — + *of* • He lost (the) *use of* his legs in a car accident.

have no use for or not have any use for : to not like or value (someone or something) • I *have no use for* such rude people. • I'm a logical person. I *have no use for* sentimentality.

it's no use — used to say that something you have tried to do cannot be done • It's *no use*—the door won't open. • We tried our hardest, but *it was no use*.

make use of : to use (something) • She *made use of* the money to pay for college. • He tried to **make good/better use of** his spare time. [=he tried to use it in a better and more productive way]

put (something) to (good) use : to use (something) in an effective way • I'm looking forward to *putting* my new skills *to use*. [=to using my new skills; to doing what I have just learned to do] • Thanks for the donation. We'll *put it to good use*. [=we'll do something good with it]

used /'ju:zd/ *adj*

1 : having been used before • a *used* tissue • a much-used excuse

2 : having had a previous owner • She bought a *used* [=secondhand] car. • The books on this shelf are *used*.

1 **used to** /'ju:stə/ *adj* : familiar with something so that it seems normal or usual • I'm not *used to* driving this car yet. • He is *used to* criticism. = He is *used to* being criticized. • The dog will need a few days to become *used to* its new home. • I've been out of school for so long that I'm not *used to* studying anymore. • She quickly **got used to** the warm weather.

2 **used to** *verb* [modal verb] — used to say that something existed or repeatedly happened in the past but does not exist or happen now • We *used to* go out more often. [=in the past we went out more often] • He never *used to* smoke. [=he never smoked in the past] • My grandmother said winters *used to* be harder here. • (Brit, old-fashioned) You **used not to** smoke, did you?

usage *Used to* is usually used in the form *use to* when it occurs with *did*. • Did you *use to* work there? [=did you work there in the past?] • It *didn't use to* be like that. • He *didn't use to* smoke.

useful /'ju:sfəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : helping to do or achieve something • a *useful* invention/tool/skill • Does anyone have any *useful* suggestions/advice? • It can be *useful* to know CPR. • The Internet is *useful* for finding information quickly. • The therapy is *useful* as a treatment for diabetes. = The therapy is *useful* in treating diabetes. • She has become one of the team's most *useful* players. • Why don't you do something *useful* with your life? • The data could **prove (to be) useful** [=people may eventually find that the data is helpful] in identifying future problems. • I **found** this information **(to be) quite useful** • Her pocketknife **came in useful** [= (more commonly) *came in handy*] when we needed to cut the tangled fishing line. • I tried to **make myself useful** [=to be helpful; to do something helpful] by organizing his closet for him. • the **useful life** of a satellite [=the amount of time

during which a satellite is in good enough condition to be used]

— **use-ful-ly** *adv* • The lessons learned from that experience can be *usefully* applied to the current situation. • She kept herself *usefully* employed. — **use-ful-ness** *noun* [noncount] • He questioned the *usefulness* of such a device.

use-less /'ju:sləs/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not at all useful : not doing or able to do what is needed • a dull, *useless* knife • The tent is *useless* in wet conditions. : not producing or able to produce the effect you want • I made a *useless* attempt at fixing the leak. • It's *useless* trying to change her mind. = It's *useless* to try to change her mind. • Drugs are *useless* in treating the condition.

— **use-less-ly** *adv* • The ship's sails flapped *uselessly*. — **use-less-ness** *noun* [noncount]

U.S. English or US English *noun* [noncount] : AMERICAN ENGLISH

us-er /'ju:zə/ *noun*, *pl -ers* [count]

1 : a person or thing that uses something • computer *users* • Please enter your **user name** [=the name or word that you use to identify yourself when you want to use a computer program or the Internet] — see also GRAPHICAL USER INTERFACE

2 : a person who frequently uses illegal drugs • I never knew she was a (drug) *user*.

us-er-friend-ly /'ju:zə'frendli/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : easy to use or understand • *user-friendly* software

— **us-er-friend-li-ness** *noun* [noncount]

1 **ush-er** /'ʌʃə/ *noun*, *pl -ers* [count] : a person who leads people to their seats in a theater, at a wedding, etc.

2 **usher** *verb*, always followed by an adverb or preposition -ers; -ered; -er-ing [+ *obj*] : to lead (someone) to a place • He *ushered* them to their seats. • A nurse *ushered* us into the hospital room.

usher in [phrasal verb] **usher in (something) also usher (something) in** **1** : to happen at the beginning of (something, such as a period of activity) and usually to help cause it • The book *ushered in* a new era of environmental consciousness. • a discovery that *ushered in* a period of change [=that marked the beginning of a period of change] **2** : to celebrate the beginning of (something) • a celebration to *usher in* the New Year

USMC *abbr* United States Marine Corps

USO *abbr* United Service Organizations ♦ The USO is a private organization that provides entertainment, social events, etc., for members of the U.S. military in countries around the world.

USPS *abbr* United States Post Office

USS *abbr* United States ship — used in the names of U.S. naval vessels • (the) *USS Constitution*

U.S.S.R. *abbr* Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

1 **usu-al** /'ju:zəwəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : done, found, or used most of the time or in most cases : normal or regular • She charges less than the *usual* fee. • He took his *usual* route to work. • the *usual* method for preparing chili • my *usual* activities • We've been working more than (is) *usual*. • She is not my *usual* doctor. • It's *usual* to charge a fee for delivery. • It's not *usual* for him to get home so late.

as usual : in the way that happens or exists most of the time or in most cases • We joked and laughed *as usual*. • The wait was twice as long *as usual*. • I was very tired at the end of the day, *as usual*. — sometimes used with *per* • He complained endlessly, *as per usual*. [=as he usually does]

be your usual self : to behave in the way you usually do • Is anything wrong? You're not *your usual self* today.

business as usual see BUSINESS

the usual suspects see ²SUSPECT

2 **usual** *noun*

the usual informal **1** : what happens or is done most of the time • "What have you been doing lately?" "Oh, you know. *The usual*." [=the things I usually do] **2** : what someone chooses to eat or drink most of the time — used especially in restaurants, bars, etc. • "What'll it be, Joe?" "I'll have *the usual*, please."

usu-al-ly /'ju:zəwəli/ *adv* — used to describe what happens or exists most of the time or in most cases • It's *usually* hotter than this in June. • The trip *usually* takes an hour. • I *usually* don't work on Saturdays. • *Usually*, there are no problems. • the way things are *usually* done

usu-rer /'ju:zərə/ *noun*, *pl -ers* [count] *formal* + *disapproving* : a person who lends money and requires the borrower to pay a high amount of interest

usurp /ju'səp, Brit ju'zə:p/ *verb* **usurps**; **usurp-ing**; **usurped** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to take and keep (something, such as power) in a forceful or violent way and especially without the right to do so • Some people have accused city council members of trying to *usurp* the mayor's power. • attempting to *usurp* the throne — sometimes used figuratively • Have we allowed their lies to *usurp* the truth?

– **usur-pa-tion** /,ju:sə'peɪʃən, Brit ,ju:zə:'peɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] • the *usurpation* of power/authority – **usurp-er** /ju'səpə, Brit ju'zə:pə/ *noun*, *pl* -ers [*count*]

usu-ry /'ju:zəri/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* + *disapproving* : the practice of lending money and requiring the borrower to pay a high amount of interest

– **usu-ri-ous** /ju'zəriəs/ *adj* • *usurious* interest rates

UT *abbr* Utah

uten-sil /ju'tensəl/ *noun*, *pl* -sils [*count*] : a simple and useful device that is used for doing tasks in a person's home and especially in the kitchen • cooking/kitchen *utensils* *synonyms* see ¹IMPLEMENT

uter-us /'ju:tərəs/ *noun*, *pl* **uteri** /'ju:tə,raɪ/ *also* **uter-us-es** [*count*] *medical* : the organ in women and some female animals in which babies develop before birth — called also *womb*

– **uter-ine** /'ju:tə,ram, 'ju:tərən/ *adj* • the *uterine* lining • *uterine* cancer

util-i-tar-i-an /ju,tɪlə'terijən/ *adj*

1 : made to be useful rather than to be decorative or comfortable • *utilitarian* furniture/objects

2 *philosophy* : of or relating to utilitarianism • a *utilitarian* argument/view

util-i-tar-i-an-ism /ju,tɪlə'terijənɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] *philosophy* : the belief that a morally good action is one that helps the greatest number of people

¹**util-i-ty** /ju'tɪləti/ *noun*, *pl* -ties

1 [*noncount*] *formal* : the quality or state of being useful • Some experts question the *utility* [=usefulness] of the procedure. • a plan without much practical/economic *utility*

2 [*count*] **a** : a service (such as a supply of electricity or water) that is provided to the public — usually plural • Many of these people are in danger of having their *utilities* shut off for nonpayment. [=of no longer getting electricity, water, etc., in their homes because they have not paid their bills] **b** : a company that provides electricity, water, etc. : PUBLIC UTILITY • Notify the *utility* if there's an outage. — often used before another noun • *utility* companies/industries

3 [*count*] *computers* : a computer program that does a specific task • an antivirus *utility* [=a computer program that prevents/removes viruses] • a *utility* program

²**utility** *adj*, *always used before a noun*

1 : designed for general use • a *utility* bag • a *utility* tool/truck — see also SPORT-UTILITY VEHICLE

2 *sports* : able to be used in several different positions or roles • a *utility* infielder/player

3 : made to be useful rather than decorative • *utility* shelves

utility knife *noun*, *pl* ~ **knives** [*count*] : a knife designed for general use • a chef's *utility knife*; *especially* : a cutting tool with a blade that can be pushed completely back into its handle — see picture at CARPENTRY

utility pole *noun*, *pl* ~ **poles** [*count*] : a tall wooden pole that is used to support telephone wires, electrical wires, etc.

utility room *noun*, *pl* ~ **rooms** [*count*] : a room in a home where equipment (such as furnaces and water heaters) or large appliances (such as washing machines) are kept

uti-lize *also* *Brit* **uti-lise** /'ju:tə,laɪz/ *verb* -liz-es; -lized; -liz-ing [+ *obj*] *formal* : to use (something) for a particular purpose • The company will *utilize* [=make use of, use] avail-

able tax incentives to convert the factory to solar power. • Many of the library's resources are not *utilized* by townspeople.

– **uti-li-za-tion** *also* *Brit* **uti-li-sa-tion** /,ju:tələ'zeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] • the *utilization* of tax incentives

¹**ut-most** /'ʌt,moust/ *adj*, *always used before a noun*

1 : greatest or highest in degree, number, or amount • This is a matter of the *utmost* importance/urgency. [=this is an extremely important/urgent matter] • I have the *utmost* [=greatest] respect for the teachers here.

2 *formal* : farthest or most distant • the *utmost* limit

²**utmost** *noun* [*singular*] : the highest point or degree that can be reached • This new system represents the *utmost* in modern technology. • It's designed to provide the *utmost* in comfort. • We *did our utmost* to help. [=we did all the we could do to help] • We had to push ourselves *to the utmost* to finish the job in time.

uto-pia or **Uto-pia** /ju'toupijə/ *noun*, *pl* -plas : an imaginary place in which the government, laws, and social conditions are perfect [*count*] The town's founders wanted to create a Christian *utopia*. [*noncount*] It's a nice place to live, but it's no *Utopia*.

– **uto-pi-an** /ju'toupijən/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] • a *utopian* community/vision – **uto-pi-an-ism** /ju'toupijənɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*]

¹**ut-ter** /'ʌtə/ *adj*, *always used before a noun* : complete and total • It's hard to believe that we were *utter* strangers just a few days ago. • The situation descended into *utter* chaos. • The children displayed an *utter* lack of interest in the performance. • The movie was *utter* garbage. • That argument is *utter* nonsense. • The wedding was a *complete and utter* [=absolute, total] disaster.

– **ut-ter-ly** *adv* • I was *utterly* convinced that she was wrong. • The two cities are *utterly* different.

²**utter** *verb* -ters; -tered; -ter-ing [+ *obj*]

1 : to make (a particular sound) • She *uttered* a cry of pleasure/pain.

2 : to say (something) • He can hardly *utter* a sentence without swearing. • Don't *utter a word* [=say anything] about this to anyone.

ut-ter-ance /'ʌtərəns/ *noun*, *pl* -anc-es *formal*

1 [*count*] : something that a person says • a politician's carefully crafted public *utterances* • She hung on his every *utterance*. [=she paid careful attention to everything he said]

2 [*noncount*] : the act of saying something • give *utterance* to an idea • the ideas conveyed in the *utterance* of a simple sentence : the act of being said • a word that by its very *utterance* tends to elicit strong emotion

ut-ter-most /'ʌtə,moust/ *adj*, *literary* : ¹UTMOST 1 • a matter of the *uttermost* importance

– **uttermost** *noun* [*singular*]

U-turn /'ju:,tən/ *noun*, *pl* -turns [*count*]

1 : a turn that you make while driving a car, walking, etc., that causes you to begin going in the opposite direction : a 180-degree turn • The driver *made/did* a quick *U-turn* and headed back north. • It's illegal to *make a U-turn* at this intersection.

2 *informal* : a complete change of ideas, plans, etc. • She *did/made a U-turn* when she found out how much the renovation would cost.

UU *abbr* Unitarian Universalist

UV *abbr* ultraviolet

uvu-la /'ju:vjələ/ *noun*, *pl* -las or -lae /-,li:/ [*count*] *medical* : a small, soft piece of flesh that hangs down from the back part of the roof of your mouth

V

¹**v** or **V** /'vi:/ *noun*, *pl* **v's** or **V's** /'vi:z/

1 : the 22nd letter of the English alphabet [*count*] The word "vest" starts with a *v*. [*noncount*] The word "vest" starts with *v*.

2 [*count*] : the Roman numeral that means five • XXV [=25]

3 [*count*] : something shaped like a *V* • The birds flew in a *V*.

²**v** *abbr* 1 or *v*. versus — used between two names that are opposed in a contest or court case • Brown *v*. Board of Education 2 *Brit*, *informal* very • was *v* pleased 3 *V* volt • a 60 *V* bulb 4 *V* volume

VA *abbr* 1 Veterans Administration 2 Veterans Affairs • a 1/4 hospital 3 Virginia

vac /'væk/ *noun*, *pl* **vacs** [count] *Brit, informal* : a time when a university is closed : **VACATION** • the summer **vac**

va-can-cy /'veikənsi/ *noun*, *pl* **-cies** [count]

1 *formal* : a job or position that is available to be taken • School administrators are trying to fill *vacancies* before the beginning of the school year.

2 : a room in a hotel, motel, etc., that is available for use • There were no *vacancies* at the hotel.

va-cant /'veikənt/ *adj*

1 : not filled, used, or lived in • These lockers/seats are all *vacant*. • There were no *vacant* apartments in the building. [=there were no empty apartments available to be rented] • The children played in the *vacant lot* [=a piece of land that is not being used] between the two buildings.

2 *formal, of a job or position* : not occupied by a person : available to be taken by someone • The seat/post/position was left *vacant* when the secretary resigned. • The position will become *vacant* next year. = (*Brit*) The position will *fall vacant* next year. • (*Brit*) I found my job through the *situations vacant* [= (*US*) *help wanted*] section of the newspaper.

3 : showing no indication of what someone is thinking, feeling, etc. • He had a *vacant* expression on his face. • a *vacant* stare/smile/look

— **va-cant-ly** *adv* • She stared *vacantly* out the window.

vacant possession *noun* [noncount] *Brit* — used to describe a situation in which property (such as a house) is vacant when it is sold so that the new owner can move in immediately • property sold with *vacant possession*

va-cate /'vei,keɪt/ *verb* **-cates; -cat-ed; -cat-ing** [+ *obj*]

1 *formal* : to leave (a job or position) • She refused to *vacate* her post even under increased pressure. • The election will fill the congressional seat *vacated* by the retiring senator.

2 : to leave (a seat, hotel room, etc.) • The police told everyone to *vacate* the premises. • Students must *vacate* their rooms at the end of the semester.

3 *US, law* : to say officially that (a legal judgment) is no longer valid • The court *vacated* the conviction.

¹**va-ca-tion** /ver'keɪʃən/ *noun*, *pl* **-tions**

1 *US* : a period of time that a person spends away from home, school, or business usually in order to relax or travel [count] We had a restful *vacation* [= (*Brit*) *holiday*] at the beach. • Family *vacations* were a high point in my childhood. [noncount] — often used in the phrase *on vacation* • I'll be *on vacation* [= (*Brit*) *on holiday*] next week. • They're *on vacation* in Rome. — often used before another noun • We had to cancel our *vacation* plans. • a popular *vacation* spot [=a place where many people like to travel] • His parents have a beautiful *vacation home* [=a house that someone lives in during vacations] by the lake.

2 [noncount] *chiefly US* : the number of days or hours per year for which an employer agrees to pay workers while they are not working • When are you taking *vacation* this year? • All employees are given three weeks *vacation*. [=they will be paid for 15 days that they do not work per year] • Employees are entitled to 120 hours of *paid vacation*. • I don't have any *vacation days* left.

3 [count] **a** *US* : a time when schools, colleges, and universities are closed • winter/spring/summer *vacation* • We have a one-week *vacation* in February. • The university will be closed for Christmas/Easter *vacation*. **b** *Brit* : a time when universities and courts of law are closed • She spent most of her *long vacations* [=summer vacations] at her parents' house.

²**vacation** *verb* **-tions; -tioned; -tion-ing** [no *obj*] *US* : to go somewhere during a vacation • He met her while he was *vacationing* [= (*Brit*) *holidaying*] abroad in Italy.

va-ca-tion-er /ver'keɪʃənə/ *noun*, *pl* **-ers** [count] *US* : a person who takes a vacation somewhere : a person who is on vacation • summer *vacationers* — called also (*Brit*) *holiday-maker*

vac-ci-nate /'væksə,neɪt/ *verb* **-nates; -nat-ed; -nat-ing** [+ *obj*] *medical* : to give (a person or an animal) a vaccine to prevent infection by a disease • We *vaccinate* all the animals that come to our shelter. — often + *against* • Children must be *vaccinated against* measles before attending school.

— **vac-ci-na-tion** /'væksə'neɪʃən/ *noun*, *pl* **-tions** [count] *vaccinations against/for* smallpox • an oral *vaccination* [noncount] What are the side effects of *vaccination*?

vac-cine /'væk'si:n/ *noun*, *pl* **-cines** *medical* : a substance that is usually injected into a person or animal to protect against a particular disease [count] the polio *vaccine* • oral *vaccines* [noncount] a dose of *vaccine*

vac-il-late /'væsə,leɪt/ *verb* **-lates; -lat-ed; -lat-ing** [no *obj*] *formal* : to repeatedly change your opinions or desires • She has *vacillated* on this issue. — often + *between* • He *vacillates between* seeking attention from the public and avoiding the media altogether.

— **vac-il-la-tion** /'væsə'leɪʃən/ *noun*, *pl* **-tions** [count, non-count]

va-cu-i-ty /væ'kju:wəti/ *noun* [noncount] *formal* : the state of lacking any real meaning, importance, or intelligence • We tired of the *vacuity* of their conversation. • intellectual/moral *vacuity* [=emptiness]

vac-u-ous /'vækjəwəs/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *formal* : having or showing a lack of intelligence or serious thought : lacking meaning, importance, or substance • a dull and *vacuous* movie • *vacuous* comments/remarks • He had a *vacuous* expression on his face.

— **vac-u-ous-ly** *adv* • He smiled *vacuously* for the camera.

— **vac-u-ous-ness** *noun* [noncount]

¹**vac-u-um** /'væ,kju:m/ *noun*, *pl* **vac-u-ums** [count]

1 : an empty space in which there is no air or other gas • the *vacuum* of outer space : a space from which all or most of the air has been removed • A pump was used to create a *vacuum* inside the bottle. • a *vacuum* chamber

2 : **VACUUM CLEANER**

3 : a situation created when an important person or thing has gone and has not been replaced — usually singular • Her death has *caused/created/left a vacuum* [=void] in our lives. • A new leader is needed to *fill the vacuum* left by his retirement.

in a vacuum : separated from outside events or influences • The group was operating *in a vacuum*, cut off from the rest of the world. • The city's riots did not happen *in a vacuum*. [=they were affected or caused by other events or influences]

²**vacuum** *verb* **vacuums; vac-u-umed; vac-u-uming** : to clean (something) with a vacuum cleaner [+ *obj*] I *vacuumed* [= (*Brit*) *hoovered*] the living room. — often + *up* • *Vacuum up* the crumbs on the couch. [no *obj*] I just finished *vacuuming*.

vacuum cleaner *noun*, *pl* ~ **-ers** [count]

: an electrical machine that cleans floors, rugs, etc., by sucking up dirt, dust, etc.

vacuum flask *noun*, *pl* ~ **flasks** [count]

Brit : **THERMOS**

vacuum-packed *adj* : packaged in a container that has had most of the air removed • *vacuum-packed* meals/coffee

vacuum tube *noun*, *pl* ~ **tubes** [count] *US*

: a glass tube that was used in the past in computers, televisions, etc., to control the flow of electricity — called also (*Brit*) *valve*

vag-a-bond /'vægə,bə:nd/ *noun*, *pl* **-bonds**

[count] *old-fashioned + literary* : a person who travels from place to place and does not have a home or much money • a solitary *vagabond*

va-ga-ries /'veɪgəriz/ *noun* [plural] *formal*

: changes that are difficult to predict or control — usually + *of* • Our plans are subject to the *vagaries* of the weather. • the *vagaries* of the heart

va-gi-na /və'dʒaɪnə/ *noun*, *pl* **-nas** [count] : the passage in a woman's or female animal's body that leads from the uterus to the outside of the body

— **vag-i-nal** /'vædʒənəl/ *adj* • *vaginal* intercourse

va-grant /'veɪgrənt/ *noun*, *pl* **-grants** [count] : a person who has no place to live and no job and who asks people for money • a part of the city that attracts many *vagrants*

— **va-gran-cy** /'veɪgrənsi/ *noun* [noncount] • Authorities are trying to address the problem of *vagrancy* in the city. • He was arrested and charged with *vagrancy*.

vague /'veɪg/ *adj* **vague-er; -est** [also *more* ~; *most* ~]

1 **a** : not clear in meaning : stated in a way that is general and not specific • The instructions she left were *vague* and difficult to follow. • He gave only a *vague* answer. • The judges determined that the law was too *vague* to be fairly enforced. **b** : not thinking or expressing your thoughts clearly or precisely • She has been *vague* about her plans for college. • When I asked him what they talked about, he was rather *vague*. [=he did not tell me exactly what they talked about]

2 **a** : not completely formed or developed • *vague* memories/recollections • We had only a *vague* idea/notion of where we were. • I think I have a *vague* understanding of how it works. • He bore a *vague* resemblance to the famous actor. [=he looked a little like the famous actor] **b** : not able to be de-



vacuum cleaner

scribed clearly : not clearly or strongly felt • He longed in some *vague* way for something different. • She felt a *vague* sense of uneasiness when she was around him. • I had the *vague* impression that they were withholding information.
synonyms see ¹OBSCURE

3 : not able to be seen clearly • *vague* [=indistinct] figures in the distance • We could just barely make out the *vague* outline of a plane in the sky.

vague-ly /'veɪgli/ *adv* [more ~; most ~]

1 : somewhat or slightly • There was something *vaguely* [=a little] disturbing about the whole incident. • The landscape looked *vaguely* familiar. • He *vaguely* resembles a guy I knew in college. • We were *vaguely* aware of what was going on outside.

2 : in a way that is not clearly stated or expressed • *vaguely* defined concepts • They talked *vaguely* about the need for reform.

3 : in a way which shows that you are not paying attention • She only nodded *vaguely* in reply to my question.

— **vague-ness** *noun* [noncount]

vain /'veɪn/ *adj* **vain-er**; **-est**

1 [also more ~; most ~] : too proud of your own appearance, abilities, achievements, etc. : CONCEITED • She is very *vain* about her appearance. • He is the *vainest* man I know.

2 : having no success : not producing a desired result • They made a *vain* [=unsuccessful] attempt to escape. • A *vain* effort to quell the public's fears only made matters worse. • Volunteers searched the area in the *vain* hope of finding clues.

in vain : without success : without producing a good or desired result • We searched *in vain* for the missing earring. [=we searched for the missing earring but did not find it] • He tried *in vain* to get the baby to sleep. • Her suffering will not be *in vain*. [=something good will happen because of her suffering]

take someone's name in vain : to use (a name, especially the name of God) in a way that does not show proper respect • He *took God's name in vain*. • (humorous) I thought I heard someone *taking my name in vain*. [=saying my name]

— **vain-ly** *adv* • We tried *vainly* to get a taxi. • Volunteers *vainly* searched for clues.

vain-glo-ri-ous /,veɪn'glɒrɪəs/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *literary* : having or showing too much pride in your abilities or achievements • a *vainglorious* celebrity • *vainglorious* words

— **vain-glo-ry** /'veɪn,glɒri/ *noun* [noncount]

va-lance /'væləns/ *noun*, *pl* **-lanc-es** [count]

1 chiefly *US* : a short piece of cloth or a wooden or metal frame that is placed across the top of a window for decoration — called also (*Brit*) *pelmet*; see picture at WINDOW

2 : a piece of material that hangs loosely from the frame of a bed or along a table or shelf for decoration

vale /'veɪl/ *noun*, *pl* **vales** [count] *literary* : VALLEY • hills and *vales*

val-e-dic-tion /,vælə'dɪkʃən/ *noun*, *pl* **-tions** [count] *formal* : VALEDICTORY

val-e-dic-to-ri-an /,vælə'dɪk'tɒrɪən/ *noun*, *pl* **-ans** [count] *US* : the student who has the highest grades in a graduating class and who gives a speech at graduation ceremonies • She was the *valedictorian* of her class in 1985. — compare SALUTATORIAN

val-e-dic-to-ry /,vælə'dɪktəri/ *noun*, *pl* **-ries** [count] *formal* : a speech that expresses good wishes for someone who is leaving : the act of saying goodbye in a formal way • He received a very warm *valedictory* for his long career. — often used before another noun • a *valedictory* address/speech

va-lence /'veɪləns/ also **va-len-cy** /'veɪlənsi/ *noun*, *pl* **va-lenc-es** also **va-lenc-ies** [count] *chemistry* : the amount of power of an atom which is determined by the number of electrons the atom will lose, gain, or share when it forms compounds

val-en-tine /'vælən,tain/ *noun*, *pl* **-tines** [count]

1 : a card or gift that you give usually to someone you love on Valentine's Day

2 : a person you give a valentine to • Won't you be my *Valentine*?

Valentine's Day *noun* [singular] : February 14 observed as a time for sending valentines — called also *Saint Valentine's Day*

¹**va-let** /'væ,lei/ *noun*, *pl* **-lets** [count]

1 *US* : a person who parks cars for guests at a hotel, restaurant, etc. — see also VALET PARKING

2 : a man's personal male servant

3 *Brit* : someone who cleans the clothes of guests staying in a hotel

²**valet** *verb* **-lets**; **-leted**; **-let-ing** [+ *obj*] *Brit* : to clean (a person's car) very well • I had my car *valeted*. [= (US) *detailed*] • She runs her own *valeting* business.

— **valeting** *noun* [noncount]

valet parking *noun* [noncount] *US* : a service in which guests at a hotel, restaurant, etc., can have their cars parked by an employee — called also *valet service*

val-iant /'væljənt/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *somewhat formal* : having or showing courage : very brave or courageous • a *valiant* soldier • She died last year after a *valiant* battle with cancer. • Despite their *valiant* efforts, they lost the game. • She made a *valiant* attempt to fix the problem.

— **val-iant-ly** *adv* • They fought *valiantly*.

val-id /'væləd/ *adj*

1 [more ~; most ~] : fair or reasonable • a *valid* argument • *valid* concerns • There is no *valid* reason to proceed with the change. • Her objections/conclusions were completely *valid*. • You make a *valid* point.

2 : acceptable according to the law • a *valid* contract/license/deed/title • You must present *valid* identification. • Their marriage is not legally *valid*. • The agreement is no longer *valid* under international law. • My passport is still *valid*. [=it has not expired yet] — opposite INVALID

— **val-id-ly** *adv*

val-i-date /'vælə,deɪt/ *verb* **-dates**; **-dat-ed**; **-dat-ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to make (something) valid; such as **a** : to state or show that something is legal or official • The court *validated* the contract. • A judge still needs to *validate* the election. **b** : to put a mark on (something) to show that it has been checked and is official or accepted • Customs officers *validated* our passports. • They *validated* our parking ticket as soon as we arrived. [=they stamped the ticket so that we would not have to pay for parking]

2 : to show that something is real or correct • The claims cannot yet be *validated*. [=confirmed] • experiments that are designed to *validate* [=prove] a hypothesis

3 : to show that someone's feelings, opinions, etc., are fair and reasonable • The decline in sales only *validated* our concerns. — opposite INVALIDATE

— **val-i-da-tion** /,vælə'deɪʃən/ *noun* [noncount] • Further *validation* is needed before the findings are published. • the *validation* of our concerns • The restaurant provides parking *validation*.

val-id-i-ty /və'lɪdəti/ *noun* [noncount]

1 : the state of being acceptable according to the law : the state of being valid • The *validity* of the contract/document is being questioned.

2 : the quality of being real or correct • Scientists questioned the *validity* of the findings.

va-lise /və'liːs/ *noun*, *pl* **-lis-es** [count] *old-fashioned* : a small suitcase

Val-ium /'væliəm/ *trademark* — used for a drug that helps to reduce anxiety and stress

val-ley /'væli/ *noun*, *pl* **-leys** [count]

1 : an area of low land between hills or mountains • the Shenandoah (River) *Valley* — see color picture on page C7; see also RIFT VALLEY

2 : a low period, point, or level • There are *peaks and valleys* [=high and low periods] in electricity usage throughout the year.

Valley girl or Valley Girl *noun*, *pl* ~ **girls or Girls** [count]

US : a teenage girl from a wealthy family in southern California who speaks in a unique kind of slang and who cares about social status, personal appearance, shopping, etc., rather than about serious things • He said I talk like a *Valley girl*. And I said, "Like, whatever!"

val-or (*US*) or *Brit* **val-our** /'vælə/ *noun* [noncount] *literary* : courage or bravery • The soldiers received the nation's highest award for *valor*. • a woman of *valor*

discretion is the better part of valor see DISCRETION

— **val-or-ous** /'vælərəs/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] • *valorous* deeds

val-u-able /'væljəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : worth a lot of money • *valuable* antiques/artwork • The watch is extremely *valuable*.

2 : very useful or helpful • A lot of *valuable* advice/information can be found in this book. • I learned a *valuable* lesson. • He made many *valuable* contributions to the field of science. • The volunteers provide a *valuable* service to the communi-

ty. • She is a *valuable* member of the staff. • He was named the league's *most valuable player*. [=the player who contributes the most to his team's success]

3 : important and limited in amount • Clean air is a *valuable* natural resource that needs to be protected. • Please don't waste my time. My time is very *valuable*.

4 : important to someone in a personal way • *valuable* friendships • Her love and support are extremely *valuable* to me.

val·u·ables /'væljəbəlz/ *noun* [*plural*] : small things that you own (such as items of jewelry, watches, etc.) that are worth a lot of money • You should not leave your *valuables* lying in your car where they can be seen by thieves.

val·u·a·tion /,væljə'weɪʃən/ *noun*, *pl* -*tions*

1 : the act or process of making a judgment about the price or value of something [*noncount*] methods/standards of property *valuation* [*count*] The total included a *valuation* of the company's assets.

2 [*count*] : the estimated value of something • The company was acquired at a high *valuation*. • Home *valuations* are at an all-time high.

¹**val·ue** /'vælju/ *noun*, *pl* *val·ues*

1 : the amount of money that something is worth : the price or cost of something [*noncount*] The company's stock continues to decline/decrease/drop in *value*. • Real estate prices have doubled in *value* over the last decade. • The difference in *value* between the two currencies is not significant. • You may exchange the item for something of equal *value*. • We sold the home for less than its full *value*. • The reproductions of the paintings have little or no *value*. [=they are worth little or no money] • These antiques will acquire more *value* [=they will become more valuable/expensive] over time. [*count*] an increase in the *value* of the dollar • The home has a *value* of \$1,000,000. • Property *values* tend to rise as interest rates fall. — see also BOOK VALUE, MARKET VALUE

2 : something that can be bought for a low or fair price [*count*] The store advertises great *values*. • They recommend the car as a good *value* (for the/your money). [*noncount*] (*Brit*) The new store offers *value for money*. [=you can buy a lot with your money at the store]

3 a : usefulness or importance [*noncount*] No one can deny the *value* of a good education. • The broccoli adds color and nutritional *value* to the dish. • The program's educational *value* was questioned. • a document of great historical *value* [*count*] A lot of teenagers *place a high value* on being popular. [=they believe that being popular is very important] **b** [*noncount*] : importance or interest of a particular kind • Few sports have greater *entertainment value* [=few sports are more entertaining] than figure skating. • He uses offensive language for (its) *shock value*. [=in order to shock people] • The picture has *sentimental value* for me. [=it reminds me of happy times in the past]

4 [*count*] : a strongly held belief about what is valuable, important, or acceptable — usually plural • cultural/moral/religious *values* • traditional/conservative/liberal *values* • Her *values* were very different from mine. • America was founded on the *values* of freedom and justice for all.

5 [*count*] *mathematics* : a mathematical quantity that is represented by a letter • If $x + 3 = 5$, what is the *value* of x ?

of value **1** : having value : worth a lot of money • The burglars stole everything *of value* in my apartment. • We lost a few possessions, but nothing *of* (real) *value*. **2** : useful or important • They didn't have anything *of value* to say. [=what they were saying wasn't very important]

— see also FACE VALUE

²**value** *verb* *values*; *val·ued*; *valu·ing* [+ *obj*]

1 : to make a judgment about the amount of money that something is worth — usually + *at* • The agent/appraiser *val·ued* the estate *at* \$3.4 million. — usually used as (*be*) *valued* • The necklace *was valued at* \$250.

2 : to think that (someone or something) is important or useful • She *values* the time she spends with her family. • He *values* her advice/opinions. • The items/objects are highly *valued* by collectors. • The herbs are *valued* for their medicinal properties. **synonyms** see APPRECIATE

— **valued** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] • She's a *valued* [=valuable] member of the staff. • We wish to thank our *valued* customers.

value-added tax *noun* [*noncount*] : a tax that is added to products at each stage of their production — called also *VAT*

value judgment *noun*, *pl* ~ *-ments* [*count*] : a personal opinion about how good or bad someone or something is • I

am not making *value judgments*, I am simply presenting the facts.

val·ue·less /'væljuːləs/ *adj*, *formal*

1 : worth no money or very little money • a *valueless* [=worthless] piece of land

2 : not useful or important • No one's life is *valueless*. [=worthless]

valve /'vælv/ *noun*, *pl* *valves* [*count*]

1 : a mechanical device that controls the flow of liquid, gas, etc., by opening and closing • They turned off the main water *valve* to the house. — see picture at PLUMBING; see also SAFETY VALVE

2 : a device in some musical instruments (such as trumpets) that you press to play different notes — see picture at BRASS INSTRUMENT

3 *medical* : a structure in the heart, stomach, etc., that temporarily stops the flow of fluid or that allows fluid to move in one direction only • a heart *valve*

4 *Brit* : VACUUM TUBE

vamp /'væmp/ *noun*, *pl* *vamps* [*count*] *old-fashioned* : a woman who uses her sexual charm to make men do what she wants

vam·pire /'væm,pajə/ *noun*, *pl* -*pires* [*count*] *in stories* : a dead person who leaves the grave at night to bite and suck the blood of living people

vampire bat *noun*, *pl* ~ *bats* [*count*] : a bat from Central and South America that sucks the blood of people and animals

van /'væn/ *noun*, *pl* *vans* [*count*]

1 : a vehicle that is used for transporting goods and that is closed in on all sides • a delivery *van* — see also MOVING VAN

2 *US* : a vehicle that is larger than a car, that is shaped like a box, that has doors and windows at the back and sides, and that is used for transporting people or things — see also MINIVAN

3 *Brit* : a railroad car for carrying goods or baggage — see also GUARD'S VAN

van·dal /'vændl/ *noun*, *pl* -*dals* [*count*] : a person who deliberately destroys or damages property : a person who vandalizes something • *Vandals* defaced the school's walls.

van·dal·ism /'vændə,lɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the act of deliberately destroying or damaging property • acts of theft and *vandalism* • He was arrested for *vandalism*.

van·dal·ize also *Brit* **van·dal·ise** /'vændə,ləɪz/ *verb* -*iz·es*; -*ized*; -*iz·ing* [+ *obj*] : to deliberately destroy or damage (property) • Our car was *vandalized* in the parking lot.

vane /'veɪn/ *noun*, *pl* *vanes* [*count*]

1 : WEATHER VANE

2 : a thin, flat or curved object that is attached to a wheel and that moves when air or water pushes it • the *vanes* of a windmill — see picture at WINDMILL

van·guard /'væn,gɑːd/ *noun*, *pl* -*guards*

1 [*count*] : the group of people who are the leaders of an action or movement in society, politics, art, etc. — usually singular • a member of the feminist *vanguard* • They are *at the vanguard* of a revolution in medical research. [=they are leading a revolution in medical research] • She was *in the vanguard* of the feminist movement in the early seventies.

2 *the vanguard* : the soldiers, ships, etc., that are at the front of a fighting force that is moving forward

¹**va·nil·la** /və'nɪlə/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a dark substance that is made from the beans of a tropical plant and that is used to flavor food • The frosting is flavored with *vanilla*. • *vanilla* flavoring/extract • (*chiefly US*) *vanilla* beans = (*Brit*) *vanilla* pods

²**vanilla** *adj*

1 : having the flavor of vanilla • *vanilla* ice cream

2 *chiefly US, informal* : not having any special features or qualities : PLAIN-VANILLA • The décor is pretty *vanilla*.

van·ish /'væɪʃ/ *verb* -*ish·es*; -*ished*; -*ish·ing* [*no obj*]

1 : to disappear entirely without a clear explanation • My keys mysteriously *vanished*. • The missing girl *vanished* without a trace a year ago. • The papers seem to have *vanished into thin air*.

2 : to stop existing • Dinosaurs *vanished* from the face of the earth millions of years ago. • The practice has all but *vanished*. [=the practice is very rare now]

vanishing act *noun* [*singular*] *informal* : an occurrence in which someone or something suddenly goes away or disappears • He *pulled a vanishing act* [=he disappeared] when the check for the meal arrived.

van·ish·ing·ly /ˈvæniʃɪŋli/ *adv* — used to say that something is so small that it almost does not exist at all • The difference is *vanishingly* small. [=there is almost no difference]

vanishing point *noun, pl ~ points* [count] : a point where parallel lines appear to meet in the distance

van·i·ty /ˈvænəti/ *noun, pl -ties*

1 [noncount] : the quality of people who have too much pride in their own appearance, abilities, achievements, etc. : the quality of being vain • The handsome actor's *vanity* was well-known. • She described her accomplishments without exaggeration or *vanity*. • personal *vanity*

2 [count] : something (such as a belief or a way of behaving) which shows that you have too much pride in yourself, your social status, etc. — usually plural • the *vanities* of the wealthy and powerful

3 [count] *US* **a** : DRESSING TABLE **b** : a bathroom cabinet that is covered by a sink and a countertop

4 [noncount] *formal + literary* : the quality of being worthless or unimportant when compared to very serious things • the *vanity* of human labors/wishes

vanity plate *noun, pl ~ plates* [count] *US* : a license plate that has letters or numbers chosen by the owner of the vehicle

van·quish /ˈvæŋkwɪʃ/ *verb -quish·es; -quished; -quish·ing* [+ *obj*] *literary* : to defeat (someone) completely in a war, battle, etc. • They were *vanquished* in battle. • *vanquished* enemies/foes — sometimes used figuratively • She sought to *vanquish* her desires.

van·tage point /ˈvæntɪdʒ-/ *noun, pl ~ points* [count] : a position from which something is viewed or considered • You can see the whole valley from this *vantage point*. • From our *vantage point* in the 21st century, it is difficult to imagine life without computers.

vap·id /ˈvæpəd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *formal* : not lively or interesting : dull or boring • a song with *vapid* lyrics

— **va·pid·i·ty** /væˈpɪdəti/ *noun* [noncount] • the *vapidity* of her writing — **vap·id·ly** *adv* • *vapidly* sentimental

va·por (*US*) or *Brit* **va·pour** /ˈveɪpər/ *noun, pl -pors* [count, noncount] : a substance that is in the form of a gas or that consists of very small drops or particles mixed with the air • water *vapor*

va·por·ize also *Brit* **va·por·ise** /ˈveɪpəˌraɪz/ *verb -iz·es; -ized; -iz·ing* : to change into a vapor or to cause (something) to change into a vapor [+ *obj*] Heat is used to *vaporize* the liquid. [no *obj*] Pressure causes the chemical to *vaporize*.

— **va·por·i·za·tion** also *Brit* **va·por·i·sa·tion** /ˌveɪpərəˈzeɪʃən, *Brit* ˌveɪpəˌraɪˈzeɪʃən/ *noun* [noncount] — **va·por·iz·er** also *Brit* **va·por·is·er** /ˈveɪpəˌraɪzər/ *noun, pl -ers* [count]

vapor trail (*US*) or *Brit* **vapour trail** *noun, pl ~ trails* [count] : a visible stream of water or ice particles that is created in the sky by an airplane or rocket : CONTRAIL

¹**var·i·able** /ˈverɪjəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : able or likely to change or be changed : not always the same • The winds were light and *variable*. • a *variable* climate • The loan has a *variable* interest rate. — opposite *INVARIABLE*

— **var·i·abil·i·ty** /ˌverɪjəˈbɪləti/ *noun* [noncount] • the *variability* of the climate — **var·i·ably** /ˈverɪjəbli/ *adv* • The term is used *variably* to mean different things.

²**variable** *noun, pl -ables* [count]

1 : something that changes or that can be changed : something that varies • unemployment and other economic *variables*

2 *mathematics* : a quantity that can have any one of a set of values or a symbol that represents such a quantity

var·i·ance /ˈverɪjəns/ *noun, pl -anc·es*

1 *formal* : an amount of difference or change [noncount] There was some *variance* in the results. [count] We noticed a slight *variance* between/in the quality of the samples.

2 [count] *law* : an official decision or document that allows someone to do something that is not usually allowed by the rules • He had to get a *variance* to add a garage on to his house.

at variance *formal* : not in agreement • Their statements are *at variance*. — usually + *with* • His current statements are completely *at variance* with his earlier position.

¹**var·i·ant** /ˈverɪjənt/ *adj* : different in some way from others of the same kind • *variant* strains of a disease • *variant* points of view • *variant* spellings [=different ways of spelling a word]

²**variant** *noun, pl -ants* [count]

1 : something that is different in some way from others of the same kind • A new *variant* of the disease has appeared.

2 : one of two or more different ways to spell or pronounce a word • regional *variants* in speech • a spelling *variant*

var·i·a·tion /ˌveriˈeɪʃən/ *noun, pl -tions*

1 : a change in the form, position, condition, or amount of something [count] color/temperature *variations* — often + *in* • extreme *variations in* temperature [noncount] He repeated the story without *variation*. [=without changing it] — often + *in* • There's been a lot of *variation in* the weather lately. [=the weather has changed often lately] • We need some *variation in* our routine. [=we need to change/vary our routine]

2 [count] : something that is similar to something else but different in some way — often + *on* • His newest book is just a slight *variation on* a familiar theme. • The meal she served us was an interesting *variation on* a traditional turkey dinner.

3 [count] *music* : a repeated version of a short piece of music with changes in its rhythm, tune, or harmony — often + *on* • *variations on* a theme by Haydn

var·i·cose vein /ˈverəˌkɒs-/ *noun, pl ~ veins* [count] *medical* : a vein that is abnormally swollen or made larger or wider • He developed *varicose veins* on his legs in his old age.

var·ied /ˈverɪd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : having many forms or types : including many different things • She has *varied* [=diverse, various] interests. • We try to eat a more *varied* diet. • My routine is *varied* enough so that I don't get bored. • She studies subjects as *varied* as chemistry and sculpture.

var·ie·gat·ed /ˈverɪjəˌɡertəd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : having patches, stripes, or marks of different colors • *variegated* flowers/leaves

2 *formal* : including many different things : full of variety • a *variegated* career

va·ri·ety /vəˈraɪəti/ *noun, pl -et·ies*

1 [singular] : a number or collection of different things or people — usually + *of* • The talks covered a wide/great *variety of* topics. [=the talks covered many different topics] • The company sells a *variety of* gardening products. • They broke up for a *variety of* reasons. • The conference attracts a wide *variety of* people. • He has a *variety of* health problems.

2 [noncount] : the quality or state of having or including many different things • I was surprised by the *variety* of the choices that were available. • Our diet lacks *variety*. • My life needs more *variety*. • You know what they say: *variety is the spice of life*. [=life is more interesting and enjoyable when you do different things]

3 [count] : a particular kind of person or thing • The museum has aircraft of every *variety*. [=kind, sort] • people of all *varieties* • different *varieties* of oranges • exotic *varieties* of snakes

4 [noncount] : a type of entertainment that has many short performances (such as dances, skits, and songs) which follow one another and that are not related — usually used before another noun • *variety* shows • *variety* performers/theater

— see also GARDEN-VARIETY

variety store *noun, pl ~ stores* [count] *US* : a store that sells many different kinds of products that are not expensive

var·i·ous /ˈverɪjəs/ *adj*

1 — used to refer to several different or many different things, people, etc. • *Various* bands will be performing at the concert. • The car is available in *various* colors. • She has worked at *various* publishing companies. • We stopped at *various* places along the way. • The reasons for their decision were *many and various*. [=they had many different reasons]

2 : different from each other • He has lived in places as *various* as New York and Beijing.

var·i·ous·ly /ˈverɪjəsli/ *adv* : in several or many different ways : in various ways • He has been *variously* described as a hero and a villain. • The term is spelled *variously* in different places. • The concept of freedom has been *variously* understood by different people.

var·mint /ˈvæmənt/ *noun, pl -mints* [count] *chiefly US, old-fashioned + humorous*

1 : an animal that is considered a problem : PEST • rats, mice, and other *varmints*

2 : a bad person • The sheriff in the movie gets revenge on the dirty *varmint* who killed his brother.

¹**var·nish** /ˈvæniʃ/ *noun, pl -nish·es*

1 [count, noncount] : a liquid that is spread on a surface and that dries to form a hard, shiny coating • floor *varnish* • (*Brit*) *nail varnish* [=US *nail polish*]

2 [noncount] : the hard, shiny coating that is produced by varnish • She accidentally scratched the *varnish*.

²**varnish** *verb -nishes; -nished; -nish·ing* [+ *obj*] : to cover (something) with varnish • He *varnished* the table.

var·si·ty /ˈvæəsəti/ *noun, pl -ties* [count, noncount]

1 US : the main team of a college, school, or club in a particular sport • She's trying to make (the) *varsity* this year. — often used before another noun • *varsity* athletes • Their son is on the high school's *varsity* baseball/football team. — compare JUNIOR VARSITY

2 Brit, old-fashioned : UNIVERSITY

vary /'veri/ *verb* **var-ies; var-ied; vary-ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to be different or to become different : CHANGE • The terrain *varies* as you climb higher. • The cost of a room at the hotel *varies* with the season. • Their services *vary* depending on the customer. • Opinions *vary* [=people have differing opinions] about the reasons for the company's failure. • They've tried to improve their procedures, with *varying* degrees of success. • The diamonds *vary* in size. • Colors *vary* from light to dark.

2 [*+ obj*] : to make (something) different : to make changes to (something) so that it is not always the same • I try to *vary* my diet by eating different kinds of foods.

vas-cu-lar /'væskjələ/ *adj, medical* : of or relating to the veins, arteries, etc., that carry fluids (such as blood) through the body • *vascular* diseases/tissue • the *vascular* system

vase /'vers, Brit 'vɑ:z/ *noun, pl vas-es* [count] : a container that is used for holding flowers or for decoration • a beautiful Chinese *vase* • a *vase* of roses

va-sec-to-my /və'sektəmi/ *noun, pl -mies* [count] *medical* : an operation that makes a man unable to make a woman pregnant : a surgery that prevents a man from producing sperm when he has sex

Vas-e-line /'væsə'li:n/ *trademark* — used for a soft and thick substance (called petroleum jelly) that is used on a person's skin

vas-sal /'væsəl/ *noun, pl -sals* [count] : a person in the past who received protection and land from a lord in return for loyalty and service — often used figuratively to describe a person, country, etc., that is controlled by someone or something more powerful • The states became *vassals* of the empire.

vast /'væst, Brit 'vɑ:st/ *adj vast-er; -est* [*more ~; most ~*] : very great in size, amount, or extent • She has a *vast* amount of knowledge on this subject. • *vast* quantities of information • The policy is supported by the *vast* majority of citizens. • a *vast* expanse of land

— **vast-ly** *adv* • His background is *vastly* different from mine. • They *vastly* increased spending. — **vast-ness** /'væstnəs, Brit 'vɑ:stnəs/ *noun* [noncount] • the *vastness* of the desert/ocean

vat /'væt/ *noun, pl vats* [count] : a large container (such as a tub or barrel) used especially for holding liquids

VAT /'vi:er'ti:/ *noun* [noncount] : VALUE-ADDED TAX

Vat-i-can /'vætɪkən/ *noun*

the Vatican **1** : the place in Rome where the Pope lives and works • I plan to visit *the Vatican* on my tour. **2** : the government of the Roman Catholic Church • *The Vatican* has announced a new appointment. • a *Vatican* official

vaude-ville /'vɑ:dvl/ *noun* [noncount] *US* : a type of entertainment that was popular in the U.S. in the late 19th and early 20th centuries and that had many different performers doing songs, dances, and comic acts • She became a big star in/on *vaudeville*. • a *vaudeville* performer/show

— **vaude-vil-lian** /'vɑ:d'viljən/ *noun, pl -lians* [count] • an old *vaudevillian* [=performer in vaudeville]

¹vault /'vɑ:lt/ *noun, pl vaults* [count]

1 : an arched structure that forms a ceiling or roof • They gazed up at the *vault* of the cathedral. — sometimes used figuratively to refer to the sky • the *vault* of heaven

2 : a locked room where money or valuable things are kept • a bank *vault*

3 : a room or chamber in which a dead person is buried — compare ³VAULT

²vault *verb* **vaults; vault-ed; vault-ing**

1 : to jump over (something) [*+ obj*] The dog *vaulted* the fence.; *especially* : to jump over (something) by using your hands or a pole to push yourself upward [*+ obj*] She *vaulted* the fence easily. [*no obj*] — often + *over* • She put her hands on the top of the fence and *vaulted over* it easily.

2 chiefly US : to move suddenly and quickly into a better position [*no obj*] The team *vaulted* [=jumped] into the lead. • She *vaulted* to fame [=she suddenly became famous] when her first movie was a hit. [*+ obj*] The success of the movie *vaulted* her to fame.

— **vault-er** /'vɑ:ltə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count] • She's the first *vaulter* [=pole-vaulter] to clear that height.

³vault *noun* [noncount] : a jump that is made over something especially by using your hands or a pole to push yourself upward • The gymnast performed a difficult *vault*. — see also POLE VAULT — compare ¹VAULT

vault-ed /'vɑ:ltəd/ *adj* : built in the form of an arch • a *vault-ed* ceiling/roof

vault-ing /'vɑ:ltɪŋ/ *adj, always used before a noun, literary* : rising or reaching very high — usually used in the phrase *vaulting ambition* • He was a man of *vaulting ambition*. [=he was an extremely ambitious man]

vaunt-ed /'vɑ:ntəd/ *adj* : often spoken of or described as very good or great : often praised • The team's *vaunted* defense faltered in the second half of the game.

VCR /'vi:si:'ɑ:/ *noun, pl VCRs* [count] : a machine that is used to make and watch video recordings of television programs, movies, etc.

VD *abbr* venereal disease

've /v after vowels, əv after consonants/ — used as a contraction of *have* • I've [=I have] been very busy.

veal /'vi:l/ *noun* [noncount] : the meat of a young cow (called a calf) that is used for food • cuts of *veal* • *veal* chops/cutlets

vec-tor /'vektə/ *noun, pl -tors* [count]

1 mathematics : a quantity (such as velocity) that has size and direction

2 technical : the course or direction of an airplane

3 biology : an insect, animal, etc., that carries germs that cause disease • a mosquito that is the principal *vector* of yellow fever

vee-jay /'vi:ʤeɪ/ *noun, pl -jays* [count] : a person who introduces the music videos played on a television program — called also *VJ*

veep /'vi:p/ *noun, pl veeps* [count] *US, informal* : VICE PRESIDENT; *especially* : the Vice President of the United States

veer /'viə/ *verb veers; veered; veer-ing* [*no obj*] : to change direction quickly or suddenly • The ship *veered* away to the north. • The car nearly *veered* off the road. • The wind suddenly *veered* and began to blow from the east. • The rocket *veered off course*. [=began to go in the wrong direction] — often used figuratively • The story *veers* toward the ridiculous at times. • She *veered* into politics soon after college.

¹veg /'vedʒ/ *verb veg-ges; vegged; veg-ging* [*no obj*] *informal* : to spend time doing something that does not require much thought or effort — usually + *out* • We *vegged out* in front of the TV all afternoon. • He's *vegging out* on the couch.

²veg *noun, pl veg* *chiefly Brit, informal* : VEGETABLE **1** [count] a delicious *veg* — usually plural • a meal of meat and two *veg* [noncount] Would you like some *veg*? • *veg* soup • a *veg* sandwich

veg-an /'vi:gən/ *noun, pl -ans* [count] : a person who does not eat any food that comes from animals and who often also does not use animal products (such as leather)

veg-e-ta-ble /'vedʒtəbəl/ *noun, pl -ta-bles* [count]

1 : a plant or plant part that is eaten as food • The doctor said I should eat more fruits and *vegetables*. • a bowl of *vegetable* soup • a *vegetable* garden • *vegetable* oil — see color picture on page C4; see also ROOT VEGETABLE

2 sometimes offensive : a person who is unable to talk, move, etc., because of severe brain damage • The accident had left him a *vegetable*. — called also (*Brit, informal*) *cabbage*

veg-e-tar-i-an /'vedʒə'terijən/ *noun, pl -ans* [count] : a person who does not eat meat

— **vegetarian** *adj* • a *vegetarian* diet/meal/menu [=a diet/meal/menu that does not include meat] — **veg-e-tar-i-an-ism** /'vedʒə'terijənɪzəm/ *noun* [noncount]

veg-e-tate /'vedʒə'teɪt/ *verb -tates; -tat-ed; -tat-ing* [*no obj*] : to spend time doing things that do not require much thought or effort : to be very lazy or inactive • I just spent the weekend *vegetating* at home. • I'm worried that after I retire I'll just sit at home, watch TV, and *vegetate*.

veg-e-ta-tion /'vedʒə'teɪʃən/ *noun* [noncount] : plants in general : plants that cover a particular area • the dense/lush *vegetation* of the jungle • hills covered in/with *vegetation*

veg-e-ta-tive /'vedʒə'tetɪv/ *adj* : of or relating to plants • the area's *vegetative* cover • *vegetative* growth — see also PERSISTENT VEGETATIVE STATE

veg-gie /'vedʒi/ *noun, pl -gies* [count] *informal*

1 chiefly US : VEGETABLE **1** • Eat your *veggies*. • fresh *veggies*

2 chiefly Brit : VEGETARIAN • The restaurant is popular with *veggies*.

veggie burger *noun, pl ~ -gers* [count] : a food that looks

like a hamburger but that is made with vegetables instead of meat

ve-he-ment /'vi:jəmənt/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : showing strong and often angry feelings : very emotional • He issued a *vehement* denial of the accusation. • The proposal has faced *vehement* opposition from many teachers. • She was *vehement* about the need for new safety measures.

— **ve-he-mence** /'vi:jəməns/ *noun* [noncount] • She spoke with some *vehemence* about the need for new safety measures. — **ve-he-ment-ly** *adv* • He *vehemently* denied the accusation. • They argued *vehemently* against the proposal.

ve-hi-cle /'vi:jəkəl/ *noun*, *pl* -hi-cles [count]

1 : a machine that is used to carry people or goods from one place to another • cars, trucks, and other *vehicles* • a stolen *vehicle* • The *vehicle's* driver was severely injured in the crash. • Have you seen his new car? It's a fine-looking *vehicle*. — see also MOTOR VEHICLE, RECREATIONAL VEHICLE, SPORT-UTILITY VEHICLE

2 : the thing that allows something to be passed along, expressed, achieved, or shown • an investment *vehicle* • Water and insects can be *vehicles* of infection. • art as a *vehicle* for self-expression • Words and pictures are *vehicles* of communication. • These big-budget movies are star *vehicles* for well-known actors.

ve-hic-u-lar /vi'hɪkjələ/ *adj*

1 : of, relating to, or designed for vehicles • The road was closed to *vehicular* traffic.

2 : caused by or resulting from the operation of a vehicle • *vehicular* homicide

¹veil /'veɪl/ *noun*, *pl* veils

1 [count] : a piece of cloth or net worn usually by women over the head and shoulders and sometimes over the face • a bridal *veil*

2 [count] : something that covers or hides something else • *Veils* of moss draped the trees. • The *veil* of secrecy was lifted. [=the secret was made known]

take the veil *old-fashioned* : to become a nun

²veil *verb* veils; veiled; veil-ing [+ *obj*] : to cover (something) with a veil or with something that is like a veil : to hide or partly hide (something) • Her eyes were partially *veiled* by her long, dark hair. • Haze *veiled* the landscape. • The sun was *veiled* by clouds.

veiled /'veɪld/ *adj*

1 : having or wearing a veil • a *veiled* hat • *veiled* women

2 : able to be seen or understood but not openly shown or stated : expressed in a way that is not clear and direct • a thinly *veiled* threat • She looked at him with barely *veiled* contempt. • The report makes *veiled* references to his criminal activities.

vein /'veɪn/ *noun*, *pl* veins

1 [count] : any one of the tubes that carry blood from parts of the body back to the heart — compare ARTERY; see also VARICOSE VEIN

2 [count] : any one of the thin lines that can be seen on the surface of a leaf or on the wing of an insect

3 [count] : a long, narrow opening in rock filled with gold, silver, etc. • a *vein* of gold/ore

4 [count] : a thin line or streak of material that has a different color or texture from the material that surrounds it • white marble with greenish *veins* running through it

5 [singular] : a particular style, quality, etc. • Most of his stories are in the romantic *vein*. [=are romantic] • She introduced a welcome *vein* of humor. • We renewed discussion along the same *vein*.

ice water in your veins see ICE WATER

veined /'veɪnd/ *adj* : marked with thin lines : having veins or streaks • a *veined* leaf • *veined* cheese/marble

Vel-cro /'vel,krou/ *trademark* — used for a nylon fabric that can be fastened to itself

veld or **veldt** /'velt/ *noun* [noncount] : an area of grassy land with few trees or shrubs especially in southern Africa

vel-lum /'veləm/ *noun* [noncount]

1 : a smooth material made from the skin of a young animal and used especially for covering books or for writing on

2 : a strong cream-colored paper

ve-loc-i-ty /və'li:səti/ *noun*, *pl* -ties : quickness of motion : SPEED [count] particles moving at high *velocities* [noncount] measuring the *velocity* of sound • the *velocity* of a bullet • His pitches have great *velocity*. [=his pitches are very fast]

ve-lour /və'luə/ *noun* [noncount] : a type of cloth that resembles velvet

vel-vet /'velvət/ *noun*, *pl* -vets : a soft type of cloth that has short raised fibers on one side [noncount] She was dressed in black *velvet*. [count] rich *velvets*

— **velvet** *adj* • a *velvet* sofa • a *velvet* dress/jacket

vel-ve-teen /,velvə'ti:n/ *noun* [noncount] : a fabric usually of cotton that resembles velvet • a dress made from *velveteen*

vel-vety /'velvəti/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : soft and smooth • *velvety* hair

ve-nal /'vi:nəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *formal* : willing to do dishonest things in return for money : CORRUPT • a *venal* court official

— **ve-nal-i-ty** /vi'næləti/ *noun* [noncount]

ven-det-ta /ven'detə/ *noun*, *pl* -tas [count]

1 : a very long and violent fight between two families or groups : BLOOD FEUD

2 : a series of acts done by someone over a long period of time to cause harm to a disliked person or group • He waged a personal *vendetta* against his rivals in the Senate. • She claims that the police have a *vendetta* against her. [=that the police are deliberately and unfairly trying to cause trouble for her]

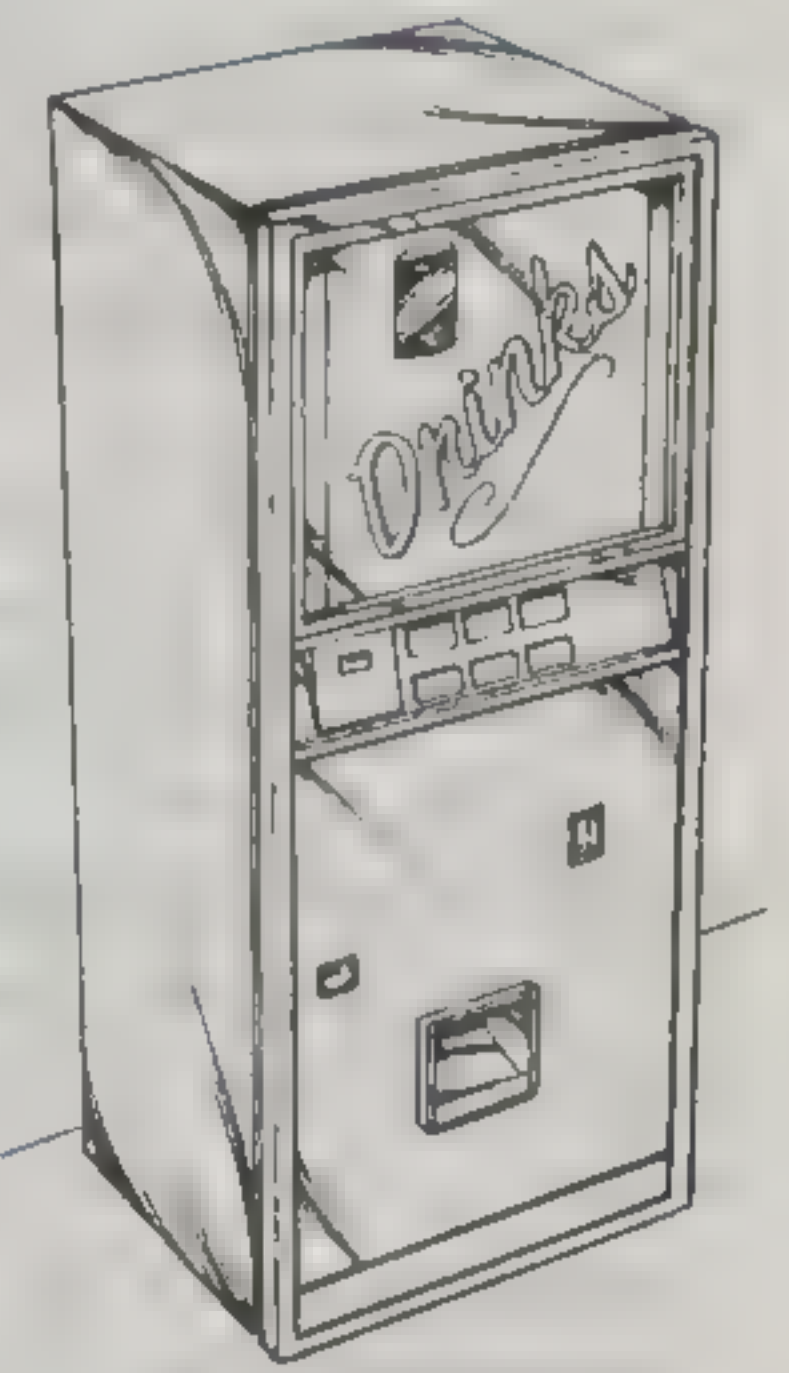
vending machine *noun*, *pl* ~

-chines [count] : a machine that you put money into in order to buy food, drinks, cigarettes, etc. — called also (Brit) slot machine

ven-dor /'vendə/ *noun*, *pl* -dors [count]

1 : a person who sells things especially on the street • a hot dog *vendor*

2 : a business that sells a particular type of product • *vendors* of computer parts • software *vendors*



vending machine

¹ve-neer /və'niə/ *noun*, *pl* -neers

1 : a thin layer of wood or other material that is attached to the surface of something in order to make it look better [count] a wall with a stone *veneer* [noncount] a dresser with mahogany *veneer*

2 [singular] : a way of behaving or appearing that gives other people a false idea of your true feelings or situation — usually + of • She dropped her *veneer* of sophistication.

²veneer *verb* -neers; -neered; -neer-ing [+ *obj*] : to cover (something) with a veneer • The cabinet was *veneered* in oak.

ven-er-a-ble /'venərəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *formal* : old and respected : valued and respected because of old age, long use, etc. • a *venerable* tradition/institution • the family's *venerable* leader • a *venerable* old hotel

ven-er-ate /'venə,reit/ *verb* -ates; -at-ed; -at-ing [+ *obj*] *formal* : to feel or show deep respect for (someone or something that is considered great, holy, etc.) • a writer *venerated* by generations of admirers • She is *venerated* as a saint.

— **ven-er-a-tion** /,venə'reɪʃən/ *noun* [noncount] • The icon is an object of *veneration*.

ve-ne-re-al disease /və'niəriəl-/ *noun*, *pl* ~ -eases [count, noncount] *medical* : a disease (such as gonorrhea or syphilis) that is passed from one person to another through sexual intercourse — abbr. VD

ve-ne-tian blind /və'ni:ʃən-/ *noun*, *pl* ~

blinds [count] : a covering for a window made of strips of wood, plastic, or metal that can be turned to block out or let in light

ven-geance /'vendʒəns/ *noun* [noncount] : the act of doing something to hurt someone because that person did something that hurt you or someone else • The fire was set as an act of *vengeance*. • He swore *vengeance* [=revenge] against his son's kidnapper. • Angry protesters wanted to inflict *vengeance* on the killer.

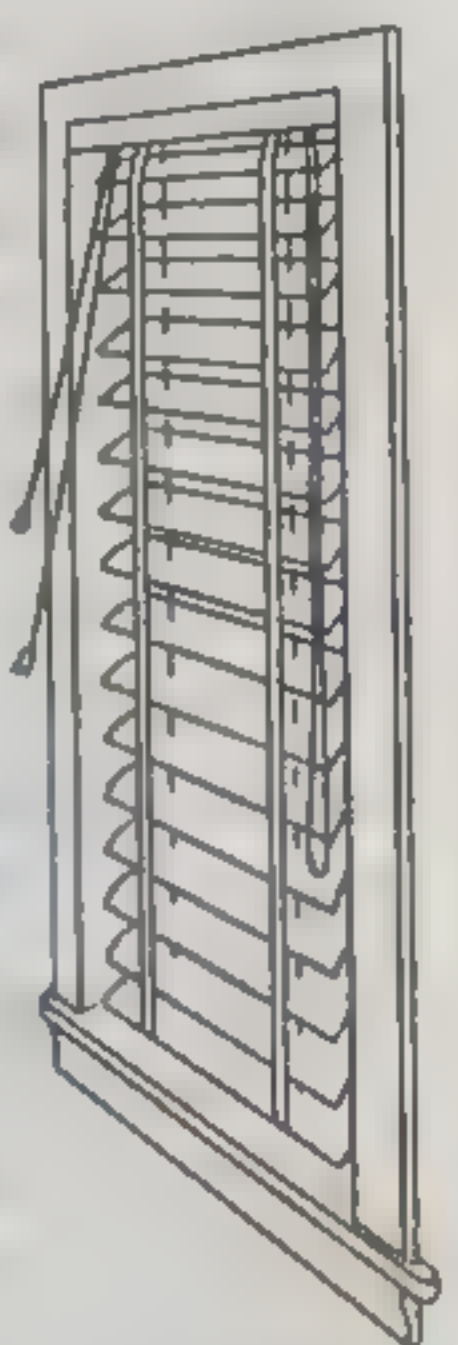
with a vengeance : with great force or effort • After losing the first three games, the team came back *with a vengeance* to win the next four. • She set to work *with a vengeance* and finished the job in two hours.

venge-ful /'vendʒfəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

: feeling or showing a desire to harm someone

who has harmed you : feeling or showing a desire for vengeance • The robbery was committed by a *vengeful* former employee. • The fire was a *vengeful* act of destruction. • *vengeful* feelings

— **venge-ful-ly** *adv* • He glared *vengefully* at his accuser.



venetian blind

– **venge·ful·ness** *noun* [noncount]

ve·nial /'vi:nijəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : not serious : FORGIVABLE • a *venial* mistake

venial sin *noun*, *pl* ~ **sins** [count] *in the Roman Catholic Church* : a sin (such as stealing something small) that is not very serious and will not result in punishment that lasts forever • commit a *venial sin* — compare MORTAL SIN

ven·i·son /'venəsən/ *noun* [noncount] : the meat of a deer

ven·om /'venəm/ *noun* [noncount]

1 : poison that is produced by an animal (such as a snake) and used to kill or injure another animal usually through biting or stinging

2 : a very strong feeling of anger or hatred • She spoke of him with *venom* in her voice. • He spewed *venom* against his rival.

ven·om·ous /'venəməs/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 **a** : capable of putting poison or venom into another animal's body usually by biting or stinging it • The cobra is a *venomous* snake. • a *venomous* spider **b** : containing venom • a *venomous* sting/bite

2 : expressing very strong hatred or anger • a *venomous* attack on his character • *venomous* comments

¹vent /'vent/ *verb* **vents**; **vent·ed**; **vent·ing**

1 [+ *obj*] *US* : to allow (something, such as smoke or gas) to go out through an opening • Windows should be opened to *vent* the fumes.

2 : to express (an emotion) usually in a loud or angry manner [+ *obj*] She *vented* her frustrations by kicking the car. • Don't *vent* your anger on me. [no *obj*] I screamed because I needed to *vent*.

²vent *noun*, *pl* **vents**

1 [count] : an opening through which air, steam, smoke, liquid, etc., can go into or out of a room, machine, or container • a heating *vent* • a *vent* for the clothes dryer

2 [singular] : an opportunity or a way to express a strong emotion that you have not openly shown • She needed to find a *vent* for her frustration.

3 [count] : a thin opening at the bottom of a jacket or skirt where a seam ends

give vent to : to express (a strong emotion, such as anger) in a forceful and open way • He *gave vent to* his annoyance. • She didn't want to *give full vent to* her feelings. [=let her feelings out completely]

ven·ti·late /'ventə,leɪt/ *verb* **-lates**; **-lat·ed**; **-lat·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to allow fresh air to enter and move through (a room, building, etc.) • She opened the windows to *ventilate* the room. • The room was adequately/poorly *ventilated*.

2 *formal* : to express or discuss (something) openly or publicly • *ventilate* feelings/opinions

– **ven·ti·la·tion** /,ventə'leɪʃən/ *noun* [noncount] • The room has adequate/poor *ventilation*. • They installed a new *ventilation* system in the building.

ven·ti·la·tor /'ventə,leɪtə/ *noun*, *pl* **-tors** [count]

1 : a device that lets fresh air enter and move through a room, building, etc.

2 *medical* : a device for helping a person to breathe : RESPIRATOR • The patient was put on a *ventilator*.

ven·tri·cle /'ventrəkəl/ *noun*, *pl* **-tri·cles** [count] *technical*

: one of two sections of the heart that pump blood out to the body — compare ATRIUM

ven·tril·o·quist /ven'trɪləkwɪst/ *noun*, *pl* **-quists** [count]

: a performer who is able to speak in a way that makes it appear that the words are being said by a large doll (called a dummy)

– **ven·tril·o·quism** /ven'trɪləkwɪzəm/ *noun* [noncount]

¹ven·ture /'ventʃə/ *verb* **-tures**; **-tured**; **-tur·ing**

1 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [no *obj*] : to go somewhere that is unknown, dangerous, etc. • We *ventured* out into the woods. • He nervously *ventured* out onto the ice. • The pups never *ventured* far from home.

2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [no *obj*] : to start to do something new or different that usually involves risk • The company is *venturing into* the computer software industry. • a writer *venturing on/upon* a new project • The group's lead singer is now *venturing on* a solo career. • It's important to plan carefully before *venturing on* a long journey.

3 [+ *obj*] : to do, say, or offer something (such as a guess or an opinion) even though you are not sure about it • I'd like to *venture* [=hazard] a guess. — often followed by *to* + *verb* • He got angry at me when I *ventured to suggest* that things could have been worse.

nothing ventured, nothing gained — used to say that it is

worth trying to do something because you might succeed even though success is not certain

²venture *noun*, *pl* **-tures** [count] : a new activity, project, business, etc., that typically involves risk • a *venture* into the unknown • a space *venture* • a joint business *venture* • *venture* partners

venture capital *noun* [noncount] : money that is used to start a new business

– **venture capitalist** *noun*, *pl* ~ **-ists** [count]

ven·ture·some /'ventʃəsəm/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *formal*

1 : willing to take risks : DARING • a *venturesome* sea captain • a *venturesome* investor

2 : involving risk : DANGEROUS • a *venturesome* journey

ven·ue /'ven,ju:/ *noun*, *pl* **-ues** [count] : the place where an event takes place • a sports *venue* • The *venue* of the trial has been changed. • The nightclub provided an intimate *venue* for her performance.

Ve·nus /'vi:nəs/ *noun* [singular] : the planet that is second in order from the sun

Venus fly·trap /-'flaɪ,træp/ *noun*, *pl* ~ **-traps** [count] : a plant that has the tip of each leaf formed into a trap for capturing insects which it eats

ve·rac·i·ty /və'ræsəti/ *noun* [noncount] *formal*

1 : truth or accuracy • We questioned the *veracity* of his statements.

2 : the quality of being truthful or honest • The jury did not doubt the *veracity* of the witness.

ve·ran·da or **ve·ran·dah** /və'rændə/ *noun*, *pl* **-das** or **-dahs** [count] : a long, open structure on the outside of a building that has a roof : PORCH

verb /'vəb/ *noun*, *pl* **verbs** [count] *grammar* : a word (such as *jump*, *think*, *happen*, or *exist*) that is usually one of the main parts of a sentence and that expresses an action, an occurrence, or a state of being — see also ACTION VERB, AUXILIARY VERB, LINKING VERB, MODAL VERB, PHRASAL VERB

ver·bal /'vəbəl/ *adj*

1 : relating to or consisting of words • The job requires someone with strong *verbal* skills. [=someone who is good at writing and speaking] • He scored well on the *verbal* section of the test. • *verbal* communication • She was a victim of *verbal abuse*. [=harsh and insulting language]

2 : spoken rather than written • They had a *verbal* exchange. • a *verbal* agreement to finish the work • We gave only *verbal* instructions.

3 : relating to or formed from a verb • a *verbal* adjective

– **ver·bal·ly** *adv* • She was *verbally* abused. • They agreed *verbally* to the deal.

ver·bal·ize also *Brit* **ver·bal·ise** /'vəbə,laɪz/ *verb* **-iz·es**; **-ized**; **-iz·ing** [+ *obj*] : to express (something) in words : to say (something) in speech or writing • She didn't know how to *verbalize* her feelings.

ver·ba·tim /və'beɪtəm/ *adj* : in exactly the same words • The court reporter recorded a *verbatim* account of the trial. [=recorded the exact words that were spoken at the trial]

– **verbatim** *adv* • She recited the poem *verbatim*. [=word for word]

ver·bi·age /'vəbiɪdʒ/ *noun* [noncount] : speech or writing that contains too many words or that uses words that are more difficult than necessary • The editor removed some of the excess *verbiage* from the article.

ver·bose /və'boʊs/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *formal* : using more words than are needed • He is a *verbose* speaker. • The teacher thought the essay was too *verbose*. [=wordy] • She has a *verbose* writing style.

– **ver·bose·ly** *adv* – **ver·bos·i·ty** /və'ba:səti/ *noun* [noncount]

ver·dant /'vədnt/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *literary* : green with growing plants • The fields were *verdant*. • a *verdant* forest

ver·dict /'vəɪdɪkt/ *noun*, *pl* **-dicts** [count]

1 *law* : the decision made by a jury in a trial • The *verdict* was not guilty. • The jury reached a guilty *verdict*.

2 : a judgment or opinion about something • Do you want my *verdict* on the meal? • The critic's *verdict* about the show was positive.

¹verge /'vɜːdʒ/ *noun*, *pl* **verg·es** [count] *Brit* : an area along the edge of a road, path, etc. • a grassy *verge*

on the verge of *US* + *Brit* : at the point when (something) is about to happen or is very likely to happen • The company was *on the verge of* going bankrupt. [=was very close to go-

ing bankrupt] • The child was *on the verge* of tears. [=was almost crying; was about to start crying] • We were *on the verge* of divorce.

²verge *verb* verges; verged; verg-ing

verge on/upon [*phrasal verb*] **verge on/upon** (something) : to come near to being (something) • comedy that *verges on* farce [=comedy that is almost farce] • His accusations were *verging on* slander.

verg-er /ˈvɜːdʒə/ *noun*, *pl* -ers [*count*] chiefly *Brit* : someone who performs simple duties during church services

ver-i-fy /ˈverəˌfaɪ/ *verb* -fies; -fied; -fy-ing [+ *obj*] : to prove, show, find out, or state that (something) is true or correct • We could not *verify* [=confirm] the rumor. • She *verified* her flight number. • He *verified* that the item was in stock. • Can you *verify* whether I am scheduled to work or not?

— **ver-i-fi-able** /ˌverəˈfajəbəl/ *adj* • a *verifiable* claim — **ver-i-fi-ca-tion** /ˌverəfəˈkeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] • He received *verification* of the deposit from the bank.

ver-i-ly /ˈverəli/ *adv*, *old-fashioned* : certainly or truly • I *verily* believe that these accusations are false.

veri-si-mil-i-tude /ˌverəsəˈmɪlətuːd, *Brit* ˌverəsəˈmɪləˌtjuːd/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : the quality of seeming real • The novel lacks *verisimilitude*. [=the things that happen in the novel do not seem real]

ver-i-ta-ble /ˈverətəbəl/ *adj*, *always used before a noun, formal* : true or real — used to emphasize a description • The island is a *veritable* paradise. • The sale attracted a *veritable* mob of people.

ver-i-ty /ˈverəti/ *noun*, *pl* -ties [*count*] *formal* : something that is regarded as true — usually plural • one of the eternal *verities* of life

ver-mi-cel-li /ˌvɜːməˈtʃɛli/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a type of pasta that is like spaghetti but thinner

ver-mil-ion or **ver-mil-lion** /vəˈmɪljən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a bright orange-red color — see color picture on page C3

ver-min /ˈvɜːmən/ *noun* [*plural*]

1 : small insects and animals (such as fleas or mice) that are sometimes harmful to plants or other animals and that are difficult to get rid of • The room was crawling with roaches and other *vermin*.

2 *informal* : very bad, unpleasant, or offensive people

ver-mouth /vəˈmuːθ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a type of wine that is flavored with herbs and spices and often mixed with other alcoholic drinks

¹**ver-nac-u-lar** /vəˈnækjələ/ *noun*, *pl* -lars [*count*] : the language of ordinary speech rather than formal writing • He spoke in the *vernacular* of an urban teenager. • phrases that occur in the common *vernacular*

²vernacular *adj*

1 : of, relating to, or using the language of ordinary speech rather than formal writing • *vernacular* phrases • a speaker's *vernacular* style

2 : of or relating to the common style of a particular time, place, or group • the *vernacular* architecture of the region

ver-nal /ˈvɜːnəl/ *adj*, *formal* : of, relating to, or occurring in the spring • trees and flowers in *vernal* bloom • *vernal* breezes • the *vernal* equinox

ver-sa-tile /ˈvɜːsətəl, *Brit* ˈvɜːsəˌtʃəjəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : able to do many different things • She is a *versatile* athlete who participates in many different sports.

2 : having many different uses • A pocketknife is a *versatile* tool.

— **ver-sa-til-i-ty** /ˌvɜːsəˈtɪləti/ *noun* [*noncount*]

verse /ˈvɜːs/ *noun*, *pl* vers-es

1 [*noncount*] : writing in which words are arranged in a rhythmic pattern : POETRY • The epic tale was written in *verse*. — see also BLANK VERSE, FREE VERSE

2 [*count*] : a part of a poem or song : STANZA • The second *verse* is sung the same way as the first.

3 [*count*] : one of the parts of a chapter of the Bible *chapter and verse* see CHAPTER

versed /ˈvɜːst/ *adj* : having knowledge about something — + *in* • He is well *versed in* French cooking. [=he knows a lot about French cooking] • a writer *versed in* military history

ver-sion /ˈvɜːʒən, *Brit* ˈvɜːʃən/ *noun*, *pl* -sions [*count*]

1 : a story or description that is different in some way from another person's story or description • Let me tell you my *version* of what happened. • We heard two different *versions* of the story.

2 : a form of something (such as a product) that is different

in some way from other forms • A new *version* of the word processing program should be available soon. • I have an older *version* of the software. • This new design is better than the first *version*. • A film *version* of the novel is being made.

3 : a particular translation of the Bible • the King James *Version* of the Bible

ver-sus /ˈvɜːsəs, ˈvɜːsəz/ *prep*

1 — used to indicate the two people, teams, etc., that are fighting or competing against each other or that are opposed to each other in a legal case • It's Smith *versus* Jones in the title fight. • In 1948, the U.S. presidential election was Dewey *versus* Truman. • I sometimes feel like it's me *versus* [=against] the rest of the world. • the State *versus* John Smith — abbr. vs., v.

2 — used to indicate two different things, choices, etc., that are being compared or considered • We have a choice of going out *versus* staying home.

ver-te-bra /ˈvɜːtəbrə/ *noun*, *pl* -brae /-,breɪ/ or -bras [*count*] *technical* : one of the small bones that are linked together to form the backbone — see picture at HUMAN

— **ver-te-bral** /ˈvɜːtəbrəl/ *adj*, *always used before a noun* • the *vertebral* column

ver-te-brate /ˈvɜːtəbrət/ *noun*, *pl* -brates [*count*] *biology* : an animal that has a backbone — compare INVERTEBRATE

— **vertebrate** *adj*

ver-tex /ˈvɜːtɛks/ *noun*, *pl* ver-ti-ces /ˈvɜːtəˌsiːz/ also **ver-tex-es** [*count*] *technical* : a point where two lines meet to form an angle; *especially* : the point on a triangle that is opposite to the base

ver-ti-cal /ˈvɜːtɪkəl/ *adj*

1 : positioned up and down rather than from side to side : going straight up • a *vertical* line • a shirt with *vertical* stripes • the *vertical* axis of a graph • *vertical* cliffs — compare HORIZONTAL

2 : having a structure in which there are top, middle, and bottom levels • a *vertical* social order

— **vertical** *noun*, *pl* -cals [*count*] The architect designs buildings with strong *verticals* [=vertical parts] and horizontals. [*noncount*] The post is several degrees off from (the) *vertical*. [=the post is not positioned straight up and down] — **ver-ti-cal-ly** /ˈvɜːtɪkli/ *adv* • The cliff rose *vertically* to the sky.

ver-tig-i-nous /vəˈtɪdʒənəs/ *adj*, *formal* : causing or likely to cause a feeling of dizziness especially because of great height • a *vertiginous* drop • *vertiginous* heights

ver-ti-go /ˈvɜːtɪɡou/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a feeling of dizziness caused especially by being in a very high place • Heights give me *vertigo*.

verve /ˈvɜːv/ *noun* [*noncount*] : great energy and enthusiasm • She played with skill and *verve*.

¹very /ˈveri/ *adv*

1 : to a great degree : EXTREMELY — used for emphasis before adjectives and adverbs • a *very* hot day • *very* accurate results • a *very* small/large number/amount • *Very* few people attended. • It was a *very* unusual/difficult situation. • He talks *very* slowly. • We checked *very* carefully. • She did *very* well on the test. • It was *very* nice of you to stop by. • I'm *very* pleased to meet you. • I'm *very* sorry. • “Thank you *very* much.” “You're *very* welcome.” • “Were you surprised?” “Yes, *very*.” • The building is *very* French. [=it looks like buildings in France] • (*formal*) Any help you can provide would be *very* much appreciated. — often used in negative statements • There weren't *very* many people there. • She was never *very* popular. • The food wasn't *very* good. • I didn't like the food *very* much. • “Was the food good?” “Not *very*.” • “Did you like the food?” “Not *very* much.” • “How's your dad?” “Not *very* well, I'm afraid.” [=my dad is ill] • She's not *very* happy with me right now. [=she's annoyed with me] • They weren't *very* nice (to me). [=they didn't treat me well; they were mean to me]

2 — used to emphasize the exactness of a description • the *very* best restaurants • We left the *very* next day. • I told the *very* same [=exact same, (US) same exact] story. • Mom said I can have my *very* own room [=a bedroom that I do not have to share] in the new house!

very good see ¹GOOD

very much so — used to say “yes” or to say that you agree with something • “Were you surprised?” “Yes, *very much* so.”

very well 1 *somewhat old-fashioned* — used to say that you agree with something • *Very well*, then. I'll see you tomorrow.

row. • Oh, *very well*. Do as you please. — see also *all very well* at ²WELL 2 : reasonably or properly • I can't *very well* show up at the wedding uninvited. [=it would be improper for me to show up at the wedding uninvited]

²**very** *adj*, always used before a noun

1 — used to emphasize that you are talking about one specific thing or part and not another • Those were his *very* [=exact, precise, actual] words. • There's the *very* book I was looking for. • the *very* heart [=the most central part] of the city • the *very* [=extreme] beginning/end of the story • I knew he was trouble right from the *very* start. • That's the *very* [=same] car I saw yesterday. • The President and the Prime Minister are meeting *at this very moment*. [=right now] • *At the very moment* the meeting began, the lights went out. = The meeting began, and *at that very moment*, the lights went out.

2 : not having anything added or extra • The *very* [=mere] idea/thought of making a speech terrified him. [=just thinking about making a speech terrified him] • You could try to help, *at the very least*. [=the least you could do is to try to help; you could at least try to help]

3 — used to emphasize that something belongs to or is part of a particular person or thing • He disappeared right before our *very eyes*! • a room *of my very own* [=a room I do not have to share] • Dogs are territorial *by their very nature*.

ves-pers or **Ves-pers** /'vɛspəz/ *noun* [plural] : an evening prayer service in some Christian churches

ves-sel /'vɛsəl/ *noun*, *pl* -sels [count]

1 *formal* : a ship or large boat • a fishing/sailing *vessel*

2 *technical* : a vein or artery that carries blood through the body : BLOOD VESSEL

3 *somewhat old-fashioned* : a hollow container for holding liquids • a drinking *vessel*

¹**vest** /'vɛst/ *noun*, *pl* vests [count]

1 *US* a : a sleeveless piece of clothing with buttons down the front that is worn over a shirt and under a suit jacket — called also (*chiefly Brit*) *waistcoat*; see color picture on page C15 b : SWEATER VEST

2 : a special piece of clothing that you wear on your upper body for protection or safety • a bulletproof *vest* • (*US*) a *life vest* [=life jacket]

3 *Brit* : a man's sleeveless undershirt

close to the vest see ²CLOSE

²**vest** *verb* vests; vest-ed; vest-ing [+ *obj*] *formal* : to give (someone) the legal right or power to do something or to own land or property • Congress is *vested* with the power to declare war. = The power to declare war is *vested* in Congress. • After five years, you'll be fully *vested* in the company pension plan. [=you will have earned the right to get a full pension when you retire]

vested interest *noun*, *pl* ~ -ests [count] : a personal or private reason for wanting something to be done or to happen • She has a *vested interest* in seeing the business sold, as she'll make a profit from the sale.

ves-ti-bule /'vɛstəbjʊl/ *noun*, *pl* -bules [count] *formal* : an entrance hall inside a building

ves-tige /'vɛstɪdʒ/ *noun*, *pl* -tig-es [count] *formal*

1 : the last small part that remains of something that existed before : TRACE — + *of* • a *vestige of* an ancient tradition • He is still clinging to *the last vestiges of* his power.

2 : the smallest possible amount of something — + *of*; usually used in negative statements • There's not a *vestige of* doubt that what she says is true.

ves-ti-gial /vɛ'stɪdʒiəl/ *adj*

1 *technical, of a body part* : remaining in a form that is not fully developed or able to function • Although it cannot fly, the bird still has *vestigial* wings.

2 *formal* : remaining as the last small part of something that existed before • They uncovered *vestigial* traces of the home's original wallpaper. • She has some *vestigial* doubts about investing in the company.

vest-ments /'vɛstmənts/ *noun* [plural] : the special clothing worn by a priest during church services

ves-try /'vɛstri/ *noun*, *pl* -tries [count] : a small room in a church where a priest dresses for the services and where holy items used during services are kept

¹**vet** /'vɛt/ *noun*, *pl* vets [count]

1 : VETERINARIAN • I have to take my dog to the *vet*.

2 *US, informal* : VETERAN • a World War II *vet*

²**vet** *verb* vets; vet-ted; vet-ting [+ *obj*]

1 : to investigate (someone) thoroughly to see if they should be approved or accepted for a job • They *vetted* her thoroughly before offering her the job.

2 : to check (something) carefully to make sure it is acceptable • The book was *vetted* by several different editors. • He's already *vetted* the plan, so we can start right away.

vetch /'vɛʃ/ *noun* [noncount] : a plant that has small flowers and is used to feed farm animals

vet-er-an /'vɛtərən/ *noun*, *pl* -ans [count]

1 : someone who fought in a war as a soldier, sailor, etc. • a Navy *veteran* — called also (*US, informal*) *vet*

2 : someone who has a lot of experience in a particular activity, job, etc. • a *veteran* of the political scene • a teaching *veteran* • He's a 10-year *veteran* with/of the team.

— **veteran** *adj* • a *veteran* politician • *veteran* police officers

Veterans Day *noun* [count, noncount] : a holiday observed on November 11 in the U.S. to honor veterans of the armed forces

vet-er-i-nar-i-an /'vɛtərə'nerijən/ *noun*, *pl* -ans [count] *chiefly US* : a person who is trained to give medical care and treatment to animals : an animal doctor — called also *vet*, (*Brit, formal*) *veterinary surgeon*

vet-er-i-nary /'vɛtərə'neri, *Brit* 'vɛtnri/ *adj* : relating to the medical care and treatment of animals • *veterinary medicine*

veterinary surgeon *noun*, *pl* ~ -geons [count] *Brit, formal* : VETERINARIAN

¹**ve-to** /'vi:tou/ *noun*, *pl* -toes

1 [count] : a decision by a person in authority to not allow or approve something (such as a new law) • a legislative *veto* • a *veto* of a bill • Are there enough votes in Congress to override the President's *veto*?

2 [noncount] : the right or power of a person in authority to decide that something (such as a new law) will not be approved • The President has the *veto* over new legislation. • The President may choose to exercise his *veto*. • *veto* power — see also LINE-ITEM VETO, POCKET VETO

²**veto** *verb* -toes; -toed; -to-ing [+ *obj*]

1 : to reject (a proposed law) officially : to refuse to allow (a bill) to become a law • The President *vetoed* the bill.

2 : to refuse to allow or accept (something, such as a plan or suggestion) • We wanted to do a cross-country trip, but our parents *vetoed* it. • She *vetoed* several restaurants before we could agree on one.

vex /'vɛks/ *verb* vex-es; vexed; vex-ing [+ *obj*] *old-fashioned* : to annoy or worry (someone) • This problem has *vexed* researchers for years. • We were *vexed* by the delay.

— **vexing** *adj* [more ~; most ~] • a *vexing* problem [=an irritating/annoying problem]

vex-a-tion /vɛk'seɪʃən/ *noun*, *pl* -tions *old-fashioned*

1 [noncount] : the state of being worried or annoyed : irritation or annoyance • He grumbled in *vexation*.

2 [count] : something that worries or annoys you • the problems and *vexations* of everyday life

— **vex-a-tious** /vɛk'seɪʃəs/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] • a *vexatious* problem — **vex-a-tious-ly** *adv*

vexed /'vɛkst/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : difficult and frustrating to deal with • a *vexed* question

2 *old-fashioned* : annoyed or worried • She was feeling somewhat *vexed*.

VGA *abbr* video graphics array — used for a display system for computer monitors

VHF *abbr* very high frequency — used for a range of radio waves that is used in broadcasting, communications, and navigation

via /'vɪjə, 'vi:jə/ *prep*

1 : by going through (a particular place) : by way of (a particular place) • She flew to Los Angeles *via* Chicago.

2 : by means of (a person, machine, etc.) : by using (something or someone) • I'll let her know *via* one of our friends. • He did some research *via* computer. • tracking *via* satellite • We went home *via* a shortcut.

vi-a-ble /'vɪjəbəl/ *adj*

1 [more ~; most ~] a : capable of being done or used : WORKABLE • a *viable* solution to the problem • He could not suggest a *viable* alternative/option. b : capable of succeeding • Is she a *viable* candidate? • a *viable* method

2 *technical* : capable of living or of developing into a living thing • a *viable* human fetus • *viable* seeds/eggs

— **vi-a-bil-i-ty** /'vɪjə'bɪləti/ *noun* [noncount]

via-duct /'vɪjə'dʌkt/ *noun*, *pl* -ducts [count] : a long, high bridge that carries a road or railroad over something (such as a valley)

Vi-ag-ra /vɪ'ægrə/ *trademark* — used for a drug that helps men to be able to have sex

vi-al /'vajəl/ *noun*, *pl* -als [count] : a very small glass or plastic container used for perfumes, medicines, etc. — called also (Brit) *phial*

vibe /'vaɪb/ *noun*, *pl* **vibes**

1 [count] *informal* : a feeling that someone or something gives you • I got a weird *vibe* from her. — usually plural • good/bad *vibes* [=vibrations]

2 *vibes* [plural] : VIBRAPHONE • playing the *vibes*

vi-brant /'vaɪbrənt/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : having or showing great life, activity, and energy • She has a *vibrant* personality. • a *vibrant* city/culture

2 : very bright and strong • *vibrant* colors • We painted the room a *vibrant* blue.

3 *of a sound* : loud and powerful • *vibrant* music

— **vi-bran-cy** /'vaɪbrənsi/ *noun* [noncount] — **vi-brant-ly** *adv* • *vibrantly* colored paintings

vi-bra-phone /'vaɪbrəˌfoun/ *noun*, *pl* -phones [count] : an electronic musical instrument which has metal bars that you hit with small wooden hammers to play notes and which has a motor that makes the notes vibrate — compare XYLOPHONE

vi-brate /'vaɪˌbreɪt, Brit var'breɪt/ *verb* -brates; -brat-ed; -brat-ing : to move back and forth or from side to side with very short, quick movements [no obj] The engine was *vibrating*. [=shaking] • The car started to *vibrate*. [+ obj] When you blow into the instrument, the air *vibrates* the reed.

— **vi-bra-to-ry** /'vaɪbrəˌtori, Brit 'vaɪbrətri/ *adj* • *vibratory* motion

vi-bra-tion /var'breɪʃən/ *noun*, *pl* -tions

1 : a continuous slight shaking movement : a series of small, fast movements back and forth or from side to side [count] *vibrations* from the engine [noncount] trying to reduce engine *vibration*

2 *vibrations* [plural] *informal* : a feeling that someone or something gives you • The building gives off good/bad *vibrations*. [=vibes]

vi-bra-to /vɪ'brɑːtəu/ *noun* [noncount] *music* : a way of making small, rapid changes in a musical note that you are singing or playing so that it seems to shake slightly

vi-bra-tor /'vaɪˌbreɪtə, Brit var'breɪtə/ *noun*, *pl* -tors [count] : an electronic device that vibrates and that is used especially for massage or sexual pleasure

vic-ar /'vɪkə/ *noun*, *pl* -ars [count]

1 : a priest in the Church of England who is in charge of a particular church and the area around it

2 *US* : a pastor's assistant in an Episcopalian or Lutheran church

vic-ar-age /'vɪkərɪdʒ/ *noun*, *pl* -ag-es [count] : a vicar's home

vi-car-i-ous /var'kerɪjəs/ *adj* : experienced or felt by watching, hearing about, or reading about someone else rather than by doing something yourself • a *vicarious* experience • *vicarious* joy/suffering • a *vicarious* thrill

— **vi-car-i-ous-ly** *adv* • She lived *vicariously* through her children. — **vi-car-i-ous-ness** *noun* [noncount]

¹**vice** /'vaɪs/ *noun*, *pl* **vic-es**

1 **a** [noncount] : bad or immoral behavior or habits : WICKEDNESS • Such men are prone to *vice*. **b** [count] : a moral flaw or weakness • He thought gambling was a *vice*. • the *vice* of greed

2 [count] : a minor bad habit • Eating too much is my *vice*. • a harmless *vice*

3 [noncount] : criminal activities that involve sex or drugs • The city is a den of filth and *vice*. • He was arrested by the *vice squad*. [=police officers who investigate crimes involving sex or drugs]

²**vice** *Brit spelling of VISE*

vice admiral *noun*, *pl* ~ -rals [count] : an officer in the navy with a rank just below that of admiral

vice-chancellor /,vaɪs'tʃænslə, Brit ,vaɪs'tʃɑːnslə/ *noun*, *pl* -lors [count]

1 : a person who has a rank just below that of a chancellor

2 : the person who runs a British university

vice president *also* **vice-president** *noun*, *pl* ~ -dents [count] : a person whose rank is just below that of the president of a country, business, etc. • He became the *Vice President* of the United States. • the company's executive *vice-president* of sales

— **vice presidency** *noun*, *pl* ~ -cies [count]

vice-roy /'vaɪsˌroɪ/ *noun*, *pl* -roys [count] : a person sent by a king or queen to rule a colony in the past

vice ver-sa /,vaɪs'və sə/ *adv* — used to say that the opposite of a statement is also true • She ended up having a lot of influence on his career, and *vice versa*. [=and he also ended up having a lot of influence on her career] • The camera can adjust for a light subject on a dark background, or *vice versa*. [=or a dark subject on a light background]

vi-cin-i-ty /və'sɪnəti/ *noun* [singular] : the area around or near a particular place • She lives in Los Angeles, or somewhere in that/the *vicinity*. [=somewhere near there]

in the vicinity of 1 : in the area that is close to (a place) •

He lives *in the* general/immediate *vicinity* of the school. 2

: close to or around (an amount) • His yearly salary is *in the vicinity of* [=in the neighborhood of] one million dollars.

vi-cious /'vɪʃəs/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : very violent and cruel • a *vicious* attack/battle

2 : very dangerous • a *vicious* dog

3 : having or showing very angry or cruel feelings • *vicious* gossip • a *vicious* tone of voice • I know you're upset with her, but there's no need to be *vicious*.

4 *informal* : very bad or severe • a *vicious* storm • a *vicious* headache

— **vi-cious-ly** *adv* • She was *viciously* attacked. • He lashed out *viciously* at his critics. • The dog snarled *viciously*. — **vi-cious-ness** *noun* [noncount]

vicious circle *noun* [singular] : a repeating situation or condition in which one problem causes another problem that makes the first problem worse • We're trapped in a *vicious circle*. — called also *vicious cycle*

vi-cis-si-tudes /və'sɪsəˌtuːdz, Brit və'sɪsəˌtjuːdz/ *noun* [plural] *formal* : the many changes or problems that happen over time — often + *of* • the *vicissitudes* of life

vic-tim /'vɪktəm/ *noun*, *pl* -tims [count]

1 : a person who has been attacked, injured, robbed, or killed by someone else • a *victim* of abuse/violence • a murder/rape *victim*

2 : a person who is cheated or fooled by someone else • the *victims* of a hoax

3 : someone or something that is harmed by an unpleasant event (such as an illness or accident) • a *victim* of fate/circumstance • a tornado *victim* • He was the *victim* of an error. • an AIDS/cancer *victim* • a *fashion victim* [=someone who wears fashionable clothes that make them look unattractive or silly]

4 : a person or animal that is offered as a gift to a god in a religious ritual • *sacrificial victims*

fall victim to 1 : to be attacked, injured, or killed by (someone or something) • Police think she may have *fallen victim to* a serial killer. 2 : to be affected badly by (something) • She *fell victim to* the flu. • He *fell victim to* a scam. • schools *falling victim to* budget cuts

vic-tim-ize *also* *Brit* **vic-tim-ise** /'vɪktəˌmaɪz/ *verb* -iz-es; -ized; -iz-ing [+ obj]

1 : to treat (someone) cruelly or unfairly • They were *victim-ized* because of their religion.

2 *chiefly US* : to make a victim of (someone) : to harm or commit a crime against (someone) • people who have been *victim-ized* by thieves/theft [=people who are the victims of thieves; people who have been robbed] • More than a dozen elderly women were *victim-ized* [=swindled] by the con artist.

— **vic-tim-i-za-tion** *also* *Brit* **vic-tim-i-sa-tion** /'vɪktəməˌzeɪʃən, Brit ,vɪktəˌmaɪˌzeɪʃən/ *noun* [noncount]

victim mentality *noun* [singular] : the belief that you are always a victim : the idea that bad things will always happen to you • He claims that our legal system promotes a *victim mentality*.

vic-tor /'vɪktə/ *noun*, *pl* -tors [count] *formal* : a person who defeats an enemy or opponent : WINNER • the *victors* in the battle/game • Who will *emerge the victor* [=be the winner] in this contest?

Vic-to-ri-an /vɪk'torɪjən/ *adj*

1 : relating to or typical of the period from 1837–1901 when Queen Victoria ruled England • a *Victorian* house • the *Victorian* period/age • in *Victorian* times

2 [more ~; most ~] : similar to the old-fashioned moral values that were typical during the time of Queen Victoria • My parents have very *Victorian* attitudes when it comes to sex.

vic-to-ri-ous /vɪk'torɪjəs/ *adj* : having won a victory or having ended in a victory • the *victorious* army/side • a *victorious* battle • They were *victorious* over their enemies. • Who will *emerge victorious*? [=who will be the winner?]

— **vic-to-ri-ous-ly** *adv*

vic-to-ry /'vɪktəri/ *noun*, *pl* -ries

1 : success in defeating an opponent or enemy [*noncount*] The general led the troops to *victory*. • They had never experienced the thrill of *victory*. • a *victory* party/celebration/speech • She was equally gracious *in victory* and in defeat. [=she was gracious when she won and when she lost] [*count*] The passage of the law was a tremendous *victory* for their cause. — opposite DEFEAT

2 [*count*] : the act of defeating an opponent or enemy • an election *victory* • Tonight's win is the team's fifth consecutive/straight *victory*. [=win] • It was a decisive/great/major *victory* for the army. — see also PYRRHIC VICTORY, moral *victory* at ¹MORAL, *victory lap* at ³LAP

victuals /'vɪtlz/ *noun* [*plural*] *old-fashioned* : food and drink

vi-cu-ña or **vi-cu-na** /vɪ'ku:njə, Brit vɪ'kju:nə/ *noun*, *pl* -ñas or -nas [*count*] : a large South American animal that produces wool which is used for clothing

¹vid·eo /'vɪdijou/ *noun*, *pl* -eos

1 [*count*] : a movie, television show, event, etc., that has been recorded onto a videocassette, DVD, etc., so that it can be watched on a television or computer screen • We're going to rent a couple of *videos* to watch this weekend. • She was talking about a popular *video* she saw on the Internet. • The *vid·eo* of their wedding was made by a professional company. • They showed us some of their *home videos*. [=recordings that they had made using a video camera]

2 [*noncount*] : ¹VIDEOTAPE 1 • The movie is available *on vid·eo* and DVD.

3 [*count*] : a recorded performance of a song in which visual images are shown together with the music • a TV channel that plays *videos* all day • Her latest *music video* was first released on the Internet.

4 [*noncount*] : the moving images that are seen in a recording or broadcast • The audio is OK but there's a problem with the *video*.

5 [*count*] *Brit* : VCR

²video *adj*, always used before a noun

1 : of or relating to the pictures that are seen in a recording or broadcast • The *video* portion of the broadcast was fine but the sound was poor.

2 : of, relating to, or involving videos that are shown on a television or computer screen • a *video* terminal • *video* equipment • a short *video* clip • The large *video* file took a while to upload on my computer.

³video *verb* **videos**; **vid·eoed**; **vid·eo·ing** [+ *obj*] *Brit* : VIDEOTAPE • I *videoed* the program so I could watch it later.

video arcade *noun*, *pl* ~ **-cades** [*count*] *US* : a place with many video games : ARCADE 3

video camera *noun*, *pl* ~ **-eras** [*count*] : a camera that is used to create videos by recording moving images and sounds onto a videotape, computer disk, etc.

video card *noun*, *pl* ~ **cards** [*count*] *computers* : a device in a computer system that controls the images that are shown on the computer's screen

vid·eo·cas·sette /,vɪdijoukə'set/ *noun*, *pl* -settes

1 : a thin, plastic case that holds videotape and that is played using a VCR [*count*] a blank *videocassette* [*noncount*] That movie is now available *on videocassette*.

2 [*count*] : ¹VIDEOTAPE 2 • He has a large collection of *video-cassettes*.

videocassette recorder *noun*, *pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] : VCR

vid·eo·con·fer·enc·ing /,vɪdijou'kɑ:nfrənsɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a method of holding meetings that allows people who are in different cities, countries, etc., to hear each other and see each other on computer or television screens — **vid·eo·con·fer·ence** /,vɪdijou'kɑ:nfrəns/ *noun*, *pl* -enc-es [*count*]

vid·eo·disc or **vid·eo·disk** /'vɪdijou,dɪsk/ *noun*, *pl* -discs or -disks [*count*] : a disk on which movies, television programs, etc., are recorded in order to be watched on a computer or television screen

video game *noun*, *pl* ~ **games** [*count*] : an electronic game in which players control images on a television or computer screen

vid·e·og·ra·pher /,vɪdɪ'ɑ:grəfə/ *noun*, *pl* -ers [*count*] : a person who records images or events using a video camera

— **vid·e·og·ra·phy** /,vɪdɪ'ɑ:grəfi/ *noun* [*noncount*]

video nasty *noun*, *pl* ~ **-ties** [*count*] *Brit*, *informal* : a very violent or offensive movie that is on video

vid·eo·phone /'vɪdijə,foun/ *noun*, *pl* -phones [*count*] : a telephone that can send and receive moving images so that users can see and hear each other

video recorder *noun*, *pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] : VCR

¹vid·eo·tape /'vɪdijou,tetp/ *noun*, *pl* -tapes

1 [*noncount*] : tape on which movies, television shows, etc., can be recorded • I watched the movie *on videotape*.

2 [*count*] : a movie, TV program, etc., that is recorded on videotape — compare AUDIOTAPE

²videotape *verb* -tapes; -taped; -tap·ing [+ *obj*] : to record (someone or something) on videotape • They *video-taped* the baby's first steps.

videotape recorder *noun*, *pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] : VCR

vie /'vaɪ/ *verb* **vies**; **vied**; **vy·ing** /'vaɪɪŋ/ [*no obj*] : to compete with others in an attempt to get or win something • They are *vy·ing* to win the championship for the third year in a row. — often + *for* or *with* • Two young men were *vy·ing for* her attention. • They *vied with* each other *for* first place.

¹view /'vju:/ *noun*, *pl* **views**

1 [*count*] : an opinion or way of thinking about something • What are your political *views*? = What are your *views* on/about politics? • The *views* expressed herein are strictly those of the author. • She has an old-fashioned *view* of women's roles in society. [=her ideas about women's roles are old-fashioned] • There is no evidence to support that *view*. • *In my view* the plan will fail. [=I think that the plan will fail] • He *takes the view* [=he believes] that the economy will improve in the coming year. • She *takes a dim view of* [=she disapproves of] their behavior. — see also POINT OF VIEW

2 [*count*] : the things that can be seen from a particular place • The house has a *view* of the lake. [=you can see the lake when you are inside or near the house] • a scenic/spectacular/beautiful *view* • I asked for a room with a *view*. [=a room that allows you to see a beautiful or interesting scene from your window]

3 — used to say that something can or cannot be seen [*count*] I got a good *view* of the accident. [=I saw the accident clearly] • You're blocking my *view*. • Our *view* of the parade was obstructed. [=we could not see the parade because something was in front of us] [*noncount*] The ship slowly sailed *out of view*. • The ship disappeared *from view*. • Keep your hands *in view* [=keep them where they can be seen] at all times. • The robbery was committed *in (full) view of* a group of tourists. • Children, stay *within view*. [=stay where I can see you] • The museum is *within view of* our hotel. [=we can see the museum from our hotel]

4 [*count*] : a picture of a place • The postcard shows an aerial *view* of the bay. [=it shows a picture of the bay taken from an aircraft] • a panoramic *view* of the mountains

come in/into view see ¹COME

heave into view see ¹HEAVE

in plain view see ¹PLAIN

in view of somewhat formal **1** : when thinking about or considering (something) • His current support of the plan is surprising *in view of* [=given] his earlier opposition. **2** : because of (something) • *In view of* the fact that your payment is late, you'll have to pay a fine.

on view : available to be seen • His paintings are now *on view* [=they are being displayed] at the local museum.

take the long view : to think about the things that might happen in the future rather than only about the things that are happening now • Investors should *take the long view* when considering where to put their money.

with a view to somewhat formal : with the hope or goal of (doing something) • They have reorganized the department *with a view to* making it more efficient. [=in order to make it more efficient]

²view *verb* **views**; **viewed**; **view·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to look at (something) carefully • The building is most impressive when *viewed* from the front. • A medical examiner is now *viewing* the evidence. • The family came in to *view* the deceased. [=to look at the body of a dead person as part of a funeral or wake]

2 : to see or watch (a movie, a TV show, etc.) • The program was *viewed* by millions of people.

3 : to think about (someone or something) in a particular way • Different people *view* this problem in different ways. — often + *with* or *as* • Students *viewed* [=regarded] the new rules *with* contempt. • He doesn't *view* himself *as* a rebel. [=he doesn't believe that he is a rebel] • I *view* this job *as* an opportunity to gain valuable work experience.

— **view·ing** /'vju:wɪŋ/ *noun*, *pl* -ings [*count*] • the first *view·ing* of a film

view·er /'vju:wə/ *noun*, *pl* -ers [*count*]

1 : a person who watches television • The program attracts



millions of *viewers* every week. • She is a regular *viewer* of the evening news.

2 : a person who sees or looks at something • The exhibit was surrounded by a large crowd of *viewers*.

3 : a device that is used to look at photographs • a slide *viewer*

view·find·er /'vjuːfaɪndə/ *noun*, *pl* -ers [count] : a small hole or window on a camera that you look through to see what is being photographed — see picture at CAMERA

view·point /'vjuːpɔɪnt/ *noun*, *pl* -points [count] : a way of looking at or thinking about something : POINT OF VIEW • The story is told from the *viewpoint* of someone who grew up during the Great Depression. • Her *viewpoint* is that of a person who has been in politics for decades. • They approached the issue from opposite *viewpoints*. [=standpoints]

vig·il /'vɪdʒəl/ *noun*, *pl* -ils : an event or a period of time when a person or group stays in a place and quietly waits, prays, etc., especially at night [count] The night before he was scheduled to be executed, the group held a candlelight *vigil* for him outside the prison. [=they held candles and waited for him to be executed or pardoned] [noncount] She *kept vigil* at the bedside of her ailing son. [=she sat beside her son's bed when he was ill]

vig·i·lant /'vɪdʒələnt/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : carefully noticing problems or signs of danger • When traveling through the city, tourists should be extra *vigilant*. • They were *vigilant* about protecting their children. • We remain *vigilant* against theft. • a *vigilant* tourist/parent

— **vig·i·lance** /'vɪdʒələns/ *noun* [noncount] • The situation requires constant *vigilance*. — **vig·i·lant·ly** *adv*

vig·i·lan·te /'vɪdʒə'lænti/ *noun*, *pl* -tes [count] : a person who is not a police officer but who tries to catch and punish criminals — often used before another noun • *vigilante* groups • *vigilante* justice

vi·nette /vɪn'jet/ *noun*, *pl* -gnettes [count]

1 : a short written description • The play's program features a little *vignette* about each member of the cast.

2 : a short scene in a movie or play • The film is a series of *vignettes* about living with cancer.

3 : a picture or engraving in a book

vig·or (US) or *Brit* **vig·our** /'vɪgə/ *noun* [noncount] : strength, energy, or determination • She defended her beliefs with great *vigor*.

vim and vigor see VIM

vig·or·ous /'vɪgərəs/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : healthy and strong • She remained *vigorous* into her nineties.

2 : done with great force and energy • His speech was met with *vigorous* applause. • She gave a *vigorous* defense of her beliefs. • a *vigorous* argument/debate • You should get 20 minutes of *vigorous* [=strenuous] exercise every day.

— **vig·or·ous·ly** *adv* • He scrubbed the dirty pan *vigorously*. • She *vigorously* defended her beliefs.

Vi·king /'vaɪkɪŋ/ *noun*, *pl* -kings [count] : a member of a group of Scandinavian people who attacked the coasts of Europe in the 8th to 10th centuries A.D. • a *Viking* invasion/ship

vile /'vaɪəl/ *adj* **vil·er; -est** [also more ~; most ~]

1 : evil or immoral • *vile* terrorist attacks • a *vile* and cowardly act

2 : very bad or unpleasant • What is that *vile* odor? • His comments were positively *vile*. • She has a *vile* temper. • (chiefly *Brit*) We've been having *vile* weather lately.

— **vile·ly** *adv* • They were treated *vilely*. — **vile·ness** *noun* [noncount] • the *vileness* of the crime

vil·i·fy /'vɪləfaɪ/ *verb* -fies; -fied; -fy·ing [+ *obj*] *formal* : to say or write very harsh and critical things about (someone or something) • He was *vilified* in the press for his comments.

— **vil·i·fi·ca·tion** /'vɪləfə'keɪʃən/ *noun* [noncount]

vil·la /'vɪlə/ *noun*, *pl* -las [count]

1 : a large house or estate that is usually located in the country

2 : a house that you can rent and live in when on vacation • They rented a seaside *villa* for two weeks.

3 *Brit* : a house in the city with a yard and garden

4 : a house or estate that was surrounded by farmland in ancient Rome

vil·lage /'vɪlɪdʒ/ *noun*, *pl* -lag·es [count]

1 : a small town in the country • fishing/mining *villages* [=villages in which most people fish/mine as a job]

2 : the people who live in a village • Entire *villages* come to see the parade.

vil·lag·er /'vɪlɪdʒə/ *noun*, *pl* -ers [count] : a person who lives in a village

vil·lain /'vɪlən/ *noun*, *pl* -lains [count]

1 : a character in a story, movie, etc., who does bad things • comic-book heroes and *villains* • He plays the *villain* in most of his movies.

2 *somewhat old-fashioned* : a person who does bad things • She describes her first husband as a *villain* who treated her terribly.

3 : someone or something that is blamed for a particular problem or difficulty • Don't try to make me the *villain*. It's your own fault that you're having these problems. • The article makes the government out to be the *villain*. = It portrays the government as *the villain of the piece*.

4 *Brit, informal* : CRIMINAL

vil·lain·ous /'vɪlənəs/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : very bad or evil : WICKED • a *villainous* attack • *villainous* criminals

— **vil·lain·ous·ly** *adv*

vil·lainy /'vɪləni/ *noun*, *pl* -lain·ies *formal* : evil behavior or actions [noncount] a story of *villainy* and betrayal [count] the gruesome *villainies* of war

vim /'vɪm/ *noun*

vim and vigor (US) or *Brit* *vim and vigour* : energy and enthusiasm • Though she's no longer young, she's still full of *vim and vigor*. [=vitality]

vin·ai·grette /,vɪn'gret/ *noun*, *pl* -grettes [count, noncount] : a mixture of oil, vinegar, and seasonings that is used especially as a salad dressing

vin·di·cate /'vɪndə,ket/ *verb* -cates; -cat·ed; -cat·ing [+ *obj*]

1 : to show that (someone) should not be blamed for a crime, mistake, etc. : to show that (someone) is not guilty • They have evidence that will *vindicate* [=exonerate] her. • She will be completely *vindicated* by the evidence.

2 : to show that (someone or something that has been criticized or doubted) is correct, true, or reasonable • These discoveries *vindicate* their theory. • Their approach to the problem has been *vindicated* by the positive results. • He *felt vindicated* when the truth became known.

— **vin·di·ca·tion** /,vɪndə'keɪʃən/ *noun* [noncount] She didn't need any further *vindication*. [singular] The positive results are a *vindication* of their approach.

vin·dic·tive /vɪn'dɪktɪv/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *disapproving* : having or showing a desire to hurt someone who has hurt or caused problems for you • He became bitter and *vindictive* [=spiteful, vengeful] after his divorce.

— **vin·dic·tive·ly** *adv* — **vin·dic·tive·ness** *noun* [noncount]

vine /'vaɪn/ *noun*, *pl* vines [count] : a plant that has very long stems and that grows along the ground or up and around something (such as a wall or tree) — see color picture on page C6; see also GRAPEVINE

die on the vine see ¹DIE

vin·e·gar /'vɪnɪgə/ *noun*, *pl* -gars [count, noncount] : a sour liquid that is used to flavor or preserve foods or to clean things — see also BALSAMIC VINEGAR, CIDER VINEGAR, WINE VINEGAR

piss and vinegar see ²PISS

spit and vinegar see ²SPIT

— **vin·e·gary** /'vɪnɪgəri/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] • a *vinegary* sauce

vine·yard /'vɪnjəd/ *noun*, *pl* -yards [count] : a field where grapes are grown

vi·no /'viːnou/ *noun* [noncount] *informal* : WINE • a glass of *vino*

¹vin·tage /'vɪntɪdʒ/ *adj*, always used before a noun

1 — used to describe a wine usually of high quality that was produced in a particular year which is identified on the bottle • The restaurant has a fine selection of *vintage* wines.

2 — used to describe something that is not new but that is valued because of its good condition, attractive design, etc. • a collection of *vintage* cars • *vintage* clothing shops

3 — used to describe something that has the best qualities or characteristics of the things made or done by a particular person, organization, etc. • *vintage* Elvis Presley songs • This painting is *vintage* Van Gogh.

vintage year **1** : a year in which a vintage wine is produced • The date of the *vintage year* is marked on the bottle. **2** : a very good or successful year • This has been a *vintage year* for independent films.

²vintage *noun*, *pl* -tag·es

1 [count] : the grapes or wine produced during one season

2 [noncount] : a period in which something was made or was begun • a piano of 1845 *vintage* • films of recent *vintage* [=films made recently]

vint·ner /'vɪntnər/ *noun*, *pl* -ners [count]

1 : a person who makes wine

2 : a person who sells wine

vi·nyl /'vaɪnəl/ *noun* [noncount] : a plastic material that is used to make records, clothing, etc., and as a covering for floors, walls, furniture, etc. • I have that album *on vinyl* [=on a record made of vinyl] — often used before another noun • *vinyl* tablecloths • *vinyl* flooring • a house with *vinyl* siding

vi·ol /'vajəl/ *noun*, *pl* -ols [count] : a musical instrument used in the past that is similar to a violin

vi·o·la /vi'oulə/ *noun*, *pl* -las [count] : a stringed musical instrument that is like a violin but slightly larger and lower in pitch — see picture at STRINGED INSTRUMENT

vi·o·late /'vajə,leɪt/ *verb* -lates; -lat·ed; -lat·ing [+ *obj*]

1 a : to do something that is not allowed by (a law, rule, etc.)

• Students who *violate* [=break] the rules will be punished. •

He was arrested for *violating* his parole. **b** : to take away, interfere with, or ignore (something, such as a person's rights or privacy) in an unfair or illegal way • He claims that his rights were *violated*. [=that he was treated unfairly] • The company *violated* its customers' privacy.

2 : to abuse or show disrespect for (something, such as a holy place) usually by damaging it • Vandals *violated* [=desecrated] the cemetery during the night.

3 formal : ¹RAPE • She was attacked and *violated* by an unknown intruder.

— **vi·o·la·tor** /'vajə,leɪtər/ *noun*, *pl* -tors [count] • *Violators* (of the law) will be prosecuted.

vi·o·la·tion /'vajə'leɪʃən/ *noun*, *pl* -tions

1 : the act of doing something that is not allowed by a law or rule [count] a serious *violation* of the law • A second *violation* was called on the basketball player. • a *moving violation* = a traffic *violation* [=the act of breaking a law while driving] [noncount] He was arrested for *violation* of his parole. • The evidence was seized *in violation of* the law. [=was seized in a way that was illegal]

2 : the act of ignoring or interfering with a person's rights [count] The group monitors human rights *violations*. [noncount] They protested the government's *violation* of human rights.

3 [noncount] : the act of showing disrespect for something (such as a holy place) usually by damaging it • They were responsible for the *violation* [=desecration] of the cemetery.

vi·o·lence /'vajələns/ *noun* [noncount]

1 : the use of physical force to harm someone, to damage property, etc. • an act of *violence* • They need to learn how to settle their arguments without resorting to *violence*. • They spoke out against (the use of) *violence* against women. • *Violence* erupted in the streets. [=people began fighting, setting fires, etc., in the streets] • movies filled with sex and *violence* • gun *violence* • *domestic violence* [=acts or threats of physical harm that happen in the home]

2 : great destructive force or energy • The *violence* of the storm caused great fear.

do violence to : to harm or weaken (something) : to make (something) less effective • They want to make a movie from the book without *doing violence to* the simplicity of the original story.

vi·o·lent /'vajələnt/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : using or involving the use of physical force to cause harm or damage to someone or something • They witnessed a *violent* struggle between police and protesters. • The peaceful protest suddenly turned *violent*. • The city has experienced an increase in *violent* crime in the past year. • showing *violence* • *violent* movies • The final scene was extremely *violent*. **2** : caused by physical force or violence • She suffered a *violent* death in a car accident.

3 a : trying to physically attack someone because of anger • The patient suddenly became *violent* and had to be restrained. **b** : likely to physically attack other people • *violent* criminals • He's not a particularly *violent* person. • He has a *violent* past. [=he has attacked people in the past]

4 : very forceful or intense • Her parents got into a *violent* argument. • a *violent* denial of guilt • The proposal has drawn *violent* criticism from many political commentators. • She went into *violent* spasms. • He suddenly felt a *violent* pain in his head. • *violent* [=extremely bright] colors

5 : very powerful and capable of causing damage • *violent* storms/winds

— **vi·o·lent·ly** *adv* • We were *violently* attacked. • They are *violently* opposed to the proposal. • She became *violently ill* [=she vomited]

vi·o·let /'vajələt/ *noun*, *pl* -lets

1 [count] : a plant that has small bluish-purple or white flowers — see also AFRICAN VIOLET

2 [count, noncount] : a bluish-purple color — see color picture on page C3

— see also SHRINKING VIOLET

— **violet** *adj* • She has *violet* eyes.

vi·o·lin /'vajə'lin/ *noun*, *pl* -lins [count] : a musical instrument that has four strings and that you usually hold against your shoulder under your chin and play with a bow — called also (informal) *fiddle*; see picture at STRINGED INSTRUMENT

vi·o·lin·ist /'vajə'linɪst/ *noun*, *pl* -ists [count] : a person who plays the violin

VIP /'viː,ɑɪ'piː/ *noun*, *pl* VIPs /'viː,ɑɪ'piːz/ [count] *informal* : a person who is very important or famous • I was treated like a *VIP* at the reception. ♦ *VIP* is an abbreviation of the phrase "very important person."

vi·per /'vaɪpər/ *noun*, *pl* -pers [count] : a type of poisonous snake

vi·ra·go /və'rɑːgou/ *noun*, *pl* -goes or -gos [count] *literary* + *disapproving* : an angry woman who often complains about and criticizes other people

vi·ral /'vaɪrəl/ *adj* : caused by a virus • *viral* diseases/infections

1 vir·gin /'vɜːdʒən/ *noun*, *pl* -gins [count]

1 : a person who has not had sexual intercourse

2 : a person who does not have experience in a particular activity, job, etc. • a political *virgin*

2 virgin *adj*

1 : never having had sexual intercourse • a *virgin* bride [=a bride who has never had sexual intercourse before her marriage]

2 : not changed from a natural or original condition : not affected by human activity • a *virgin* forest • *virgin* snow

3 of olive oil : obtained from the first light pressing of olives • extra *virgin* olive oil

4 : used or worked for the first time • *virgin* wool/wood/timber

virgin territory : an experience or situation that is new for someone • This is *virgin territory* for us. We've never faced a problem like this before. • We're headed into *virgin territory* with these new regulations.

vir·gin·al /'vɜːdʒənəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : having a young, pure, and innocent quality • a *virginal* young girl • *virginal* innocence

2 : not changed from a natural or original condition • The land is still in its *virginal* state.

Vir·gin·ia creeper /və'ɟɪnjə-/ *noun*, *pl* ~ -ers [count] : a kind of vine that is often grown on walls

Virginia reel *noun* [noncount] : a traditional American dance in which two lines of people face each other and take turns doing a series of movements with the person they are facing

vir·gin·i·ty /və'ɟɪnəti/ *noun* [noncount] : the state of never having had sexual intercourse : the state of being a virgin • He *lost his virginity* [=he had sexual intercourse for the first time] when he was in college.

Virgin Mary *noun*

the *Virgin Mary* : the mother of Jesus Christ • They prayed to the *Virgin Mary*.

Vir·go /'vɜːgou/ *noun*, *pl* -gos

1 [noncount] : the sixth sign of the zodiac that comes between Leo and Libra and that has a virgin as its symbol — see picture at ZODIAC

2 [count] : a person born under the sign of Virgo : a person born between August 23 and September 22 • Are you a *Virgo* or a *Libra*?

vir·ile /'vɪrəl, Brit 'vɪ,rail/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : having or suggesting qualities (such as strength and sexual energy) that are associated with men and that are usually considered attractive in men • *virile* young athletes • a *virile* writing style

— **vi·ril·i·ty** /və'ɪlɪti/ *noun* [noncount] • an actor admired for his *virility*

vi·rol·o·gy /vaɪ'rɑːlədʒi/ *noun* [noncount] *medical* : the study of viruses and the diseases they cause

— **vi·rol·o·gist** /vaɪ'rɑːlədʒɪst/ *noun*, *pl* -gists [count]

vir·tu·al /'vɜːtʃwəl/ *adj*, always used before a noun

1 : very close to being something without actually being it •

The country is ruled by a *virtual* dictator. [=by someone who is not officially a dictator but who is like a dictator in every important way] • Her victory is a *virtual* certainty. [=she almost certainly will win] • The species is nearing *virtual* extinction. [=it is almost extinct]

2 : existing or occurring on computers or on the Internet • a *virtual* library • *virtual* shopping • The Web site provides a *virtual* tour of the stadium.

vir·tu·al·ly /'vɜːtʃwəli/ *adv* : very nearly : almost entirely • We spent *virtually* all day shopping. • The stadium was *virtually* empty by the time the game ended. • I remember *virtually* everything he said. • That illness is *virtually* unknown in this area. • She is *virtually* guaranteed to get the job. [=she almost certainly will get the job]

virtual reality *noun* [noncount] : an artificial world that consists of images and sounds created by a computer and that is affected by the actions of a person who is experiencing it

vir·tue /'vɜːtʃu/ *noun*, *pl* -tues

1 [noncount] : morally good behavior or character • I urge you all to lead lives of *virtue*. [=to live virtuously] • She says that *virtue* is its own reward. [=that if you do good things, you do not need to be rewarded with money, fame, etc.] • His supporters regard him as a model/paragon of *virtue*. [=as a person who has no moral faults]

2 [count] : a good and moral quality • Patience is a *virtue*.

3 [noncount] : the good result that comes from something • Her parents taught her the *virtue* of hard work. [=that hard work is important and valuable]

4 [count] : an advantage or benefit • The restaurant is inexpensive, and it has the added *virtue* of being close to our house. • One of the *virtues* of this job is the flexible hours.

by virtue of : because of (something) • She has the right to participate *by virtue of* her status as a former employee.

make a virtue (out) of necessity : to benefit from something that you are forced to do • When he lost his driver's license, he *made a virtue out of necessity* and got in shape by riding his bike to work.

vir·tu·os·i·ty /,vɜːtʃuːsəti/ *noun* [noncount] *formal* : great ability or skill shown by a musician, performer, etc. • Her *virtuosity* on the piano is amazing.

vir·tu·o·so /,vɜːtʃuːsə/ *noun*, *pl* -sos or -si /-si/ [count] : a person who does something in a very skillful way • He's a real *virtuoso* in the kitchen.; *especially* : a very skillful musician • She's a piano *virtuoso*.

— **virtuoso** *adj*, always used before a noun • She gave a *virtuoso* performance.

vir·tu·ous /'vɜːtʃwəs/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : morally good : having or showing virtue • a *virtuous* man/woman • *virtuous* behavior/conduct • She felt that she had made a *virtuous* decision by donating the money to charity.

— **vir·tu·ous·ly** *adv* • He tried to live *virtuously*. — **vir·tu·ous·ness** *noun* [noncount] • I admire her *virtuousness*.

vir·u·lent /'vɪrələnt/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 a : full of hate or anger • *virulent* racists/racism **b** : extremely or excessively harsh or strong • *virulent* criticism/remarks • The country seemed to be returning to the *virulent* nationalism of its past.

2 : extremely dangerous and deadly and usually spreading very quickly • a *virulent* disease/infection

— **vir·u·lence** /'vɪrələns/ *noun* [noncount] • the *virulence* of a particular strain of the disease • The *virulence* of the protest was surprising. — **vir·u·lent·ly** *adv* • a *virulently* racist comment • She *virulently* opposes the proposed new law.

vi·rus /'vaɪrəs/ *noun*, *pl* -rus-es [count]

1 : an extremely small living thing that causes a disease and that spreads from one person or animal to another • the AIDS *virus* = the *virus* that causes AIDS • Is the illness caused by bacteria or a *virus*?

2 : a disease or illness caused by a virus : a viral disease • I think I have the *virus* that's going around this winter. • a stomach *virus*

3 computers : a program that is designed to harm a computer by deleting data, ruining files, etc., and that can be spread secretly from one computer to another • The software checks your hard drive for *viruses*.

vi·sa /'viːzə/ *noun*, *pl* -sas [count] : an official mark or stamp on a passport that allows someone to enter or leave a country usually for a particular reason • a work/student *visa* • *exit visas* [=visas that let you leave your own country]

vis·age /'vɪzɪdʒ/ *noun*, *pl* -ag-es [count] *literary* : a person's face • his smiling *visage*

vis·cera /'vɪsərə/ *noun* [plural] *medical* : the organs (such as the heart, liver, and lungs) inside the main part of the body

vis·cer·al /'vɪsərəl/ *adj*

1 [more ~; most ~] *literary* : coming from strong emotions and not from logic or reason • *visceral* hatred • Her *visceral* reaction was to curse at the other driver.

2 medical : of or relating to the viscera • *visceral* tissues

— **vis·cer·al·ly** *adv* • They responded *viscerally* to the criticism.

vis·count /'vaɪ,kɑʊnt/ *noun*, *pl* -counts [count] : a man who is a member of the British nobility and who ranks below an earl and above a baron

vis·count·ess /'vaɪ,kɑʊntəs/ *noun*, *pl* -ess-es [count]

1 : the wife or widow of a viscount

2 : a woman who has the rank of a viscount

vis·cous /'vɪskəs/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *of a liquid* : thick or sticky : not flowing easily • *viscous* liquids

— **vis·cos·i·ty** /vɪ'skɑːsəti/ *noun* [noncount] • a liquid with a high/low *viscosity*

vise (US) or **Brit vice** /'vaɪs/ *noun*, *pl* vis-es [count] : a tool that is usually attached to a table and that has two flat parts that can be opened and closed by a screw or lever in order to hold something (such as a piece of wood) very firmly — see picture at CARPENTRY

— **vise-like** (US) or **Brit vice-like** /'vaɪs,lark/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] • He had a *viselike* [=very firm] grip on my arm.

vis·i·bil·i·ty /,vɪzə'bɪləti/ *noun* [noncount]

1 : the ability to see or be seen • Joggers should wear light-colored clothes to increase their *visibility*. [=to make it easier for people to see them] — used especially to describe how far you are able to see because of weather conditions, darkness, etc. • It was a clear day with good *visibility*. [=a day when you could see a long distance because the air was clear] • flying/driving under conditions of poor/low/reduced *visibility* • The fog was very heavy and *visibility* was down to a few feet.

2 : the quality or state of being known to the public • The extra publicity helped to increase the company's *visibility*.

vis·i·ble /'vɪzəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : able to be seen • The ship was not *visible* through the fog. • The ship was barely/clearly *visible*. • The patient showed no *visible* symptoms. • stars *visible to the naked eye* [=able to be seen without special equipment] — opposite INVISIBLE

2 : easily seen or understood : OBVIOUS • There was a *visible* change in his mood. • She has no *visible means of support*. [=she had no obvious source of money, such as a job]

3 : known to or noticed by the public • They played a *highly visible* role in the negotiations. • a *highly visible* politician

— **vis·i·bly** /'vɪzəbli/ *adv* • He was *visibly* upset/excited.

vi·sion /'vɪʒən/ *noun*, *pl* -sions

1 [noncount] : the ability to see : sight or eyesight • She has good/poor *vision*. • She has normal *vision*. = She has 20/20 *vision*. • impaired/blurred *vision* • a *vision* test • *vision* problems • The pole was right in my *line of vision*. [=the area in front of my eyes] — see also FIELD OF VISION, TUNNEL VISION

2 [count] : something that you imagine : a picture that you see in your mind • We had *visions* of fame and fortune. • the architect's *vision* for the new building • She had a clear *vision* of what she wanted to do.

3 [count] : something that you see or dream especially as part of a religious or supernatural experience • He had a *vision* of Christ. • The idea came to me *in a vision*.

4 : a clear idea about what should happen or be done in the future [noncount] The job requires a leader with *vision*. [count] a leader with a *vision* of/for the future • They had two very different *visions* for the company.

5 [count] : a beautiful person or thing : a lovely sight — used especially of a woman • She was a *vision* in white. • a *vision* of beauty

6 [noncount] *Brit* : the picture that is shown on a television or in a film • technology that provides the very best in sound and *vision*

vision clears see ²CLEAR

¹**vi·sion·ary** /'vɪʒənəri, Brit 'vɪʒənri/ *adj*

1 [more ~; most ~] **a** : having or showing clear ideas about what should happen or be done in the future • She is known as a *visionary* leader. • *visionary* leadership **b** : having or showing a powerful imagination • a *visionary* poet

2 : of or relating to something that is seen or imagined in a dream or vision (sense 3) • He had a *visionary* experience.

²**visionary** *noun*, *pl* -ar-ies [count]

1 a : a person who has clear ideas about what should happen or be done in the future • She's a *visionary* in her field. • a political *visionary* **b** : a person who has a powerful imagination • an artistic *visionary*

2 : a person who sees visions (sense 3)

¹vis·it /'vɪzət/ *verb* -its; -it-ed; -it-ing

1 a : to go somewhere to spend time with (someone, such as a friend or relative) [+ *obj*] She is *visiting* her aunt in New York. [no *obj*] When are you coming to *visit*? — often used + *with* in U.S. English • She is *visiting with* her aunt in New York. **b** [+ *obj*] : to go somewhere to see and talk to (someone) in an official way or as part of your job • He is *visiting* a client in Phoenix. **c** [+ *obj*] : to go to see (a doctor, dentist, etc.) • She *visits* her doctor regularly.

2 [+ *obj*] : to go to (a place) for pleasure, as part of your job, etc. • We *visited* the zoo. • I would like to *visit* Rome someday. • City officials *visited* the building site. • Our town was once *visited* by the President.

3 [+ *obj*] : to go to (a Web site) on the Internet • Be sure to *visit* our Web site.

visit on/upon [*phrasal verb*] *visit* (something) *on/upon* (someone) *formal* + *old-fashioned* : to punish (someone) with (something) • The Lord *visited* a plague *upon* the city. ✧ The saying *the sins of the fathers are visited upon the children* means that children often suffer for the bad things their parents do.

visit with [*phrasal verb*] *visit with* (someone) *US* : to spend time talking informally with (someone) • I had a chance to *visit with* her for a few minutes after the meeting. — see also ¹VISIT 1a (above)

²visit *noun, pl -its* [count]

1 : an occasion when someone goes to a place to see and talk to someone for usually a brief time • We had a *visit* from the company president. • Our son came home for a *visit*. • He *paid a visit* to his parents. = He *paid* his parents *a visit*. [=he visited his parents]

2 a : an occasion when someone goes to a place for pleasure, as part of a job, to do something, etc. • Have you been here before, or is this your first *visit*? — often + *to* • Is this your first *visit to* the U.S.? • The President will make a state *visit to* China. • a recent *visit to* the doctor's office • He made several *visits* [=trips] *to* the bathroom. **b** : an occasion when you are staying in a hotel, motel, etc. • We hope you enjoy your *visit*. [=stay]

3 US : an occasion when you spend time talking informally with someone • We had a nice *visit* after the meeting. — often + *with* • I had a nice *visit with* her after the meeting.

vis·i·ta·tion /,vɪzə'teɪʃən/ *noun, pl -tions*

1 [*noncount*] *law* : the act of visiting your children or the right to visit your children after you are divorced and while they are living with their other parent • supervised *visitation* • He has *visitation rights* on the weekends.

2 [*count, noncount*] *formal* : an official visit by an important person especially to look at or inspect something • the *visitation* of a diocese by a bishop

3 [*count*] *US* : a time before a dead person is buried when people may view the body • *Visitation* is from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m.

4 : an occurrence when something supernatural (such as a ghost or an angel) appears to someone [*count*] ghostly *visitations* [*noncount*] *visitation* by ghosts

5 [*count*] *formal* + *old-fashioned* : a bad thing that happens and is believed to be punishment from God • a *visitation* of the plague upon the city

vis·it·ing /'vɪzətɪŋ/ *adj*

1 — used to describe someone (such as a teacher) who goes to work for a limited time at a different school, college, etc. • a *visiting* teacher/professor

2 sports : playing on the field or court of an opponent • the *visiting* team

visiting card *noun, pl ~ cards* [count] *Brit* : CALLING CARD 2

vis·i·tor /'vɪzətə/ *noun, pl -tors* [count] : someone who visits a person or place • We are expecting *visitors*. • The museum gets *visitors* from all over the world. • *Visitors* to the office must sign in at the desk. • There's a *visitor* waiting for you in the lobby.

vi·sor /'vaɪzə/ *noun, pl -sors* [count]

1 : a piece on the front of a helmet that you can pull down to protect your face

2 US : the part of a hat or cap that sticks out in front to protect or shade your eyes — see picture at HAT

3 : a flat, stiff piece of material on the inside of a car above the windshield that you can pull down to keep sunlight from shining in your eyes — see picture at CAR

vis·ta /'vɪstə/ *noun, pl -tas* [count]

1 : a large and beautiful view of an area of land or water • colorful mountain *vistas*

2 : a large number of things that may be possible in the future • Computers have opened up (whole) new *vistas* for scientific research.

¹vi·su·al /'vɪzəwəl/ *adj* : relating to seeing or to the eyes • a *visual* impairment • *visual* perception • color, shape, and other *visual* attributes • She appreciates the *visual* arts such as painting and film. • the movie's *visual* effects • Maps are a *visual* tool for learning.

— **vi·su·al·ly** *adv* • people who are *visually impaired* [=people who cannot see well]

²visual *noun, pl -als* [count] : something you look at (such as a picture, chart, or film) that is used to make something more appealing or easier to understand • Should I include some *visuals* in my presentation? • a film director known for his powerful/stunning *visuals*

visual aid *noun, pl ~ aids* [count] : something you look at (such as a chart or film) that is used to make something easier to understand

visual field *noun, pl ~ fields* [count] : FIELD OF VISION

vi·su·al·ize *also Brit vi·su·al·ise* /'vɪzəwə,laɪz/ *verb -izes; -ized; -iz-ing* [+ *obj*] : to form a mental picture of (someone or something) : IMAGINE • She tried to *visualize* the scene he was describing. • I can't *visualize* him as a parent. = It's hard to *visualize* him as a parent. • Before you swing, *visualize* yourself hitting the ball.

— **vi·su·al·i·za·tion** *also Brit vi·su·al·i·sa·tion* /,vɪzəwə-lə'zeɪʃən, *Brit* ,vɪzəwə,laɪ'zeɪʃən/ *noun, pl -tions* [count, *noncount*]

vi·ta /'vi:tə/ *noun, pl vi·tae* /'vi:,taɪ/ [count] *US* : CURRICULUM VITAE

vi·tal /'vaɪtəl/ *adj*

1 [*more ~; most ~*] : extremely important : CRUCIAL • These matters are *vital* to national defense. • He played a *vital* [=key] role in guiding the project. • The sciences are a *vital* part of the school curriculum. • It is *vital* that you follow all safety procedures. = It is *of vital importance* that you follow all safety procedures.

2 *always used before a noun* : needed by your body in order to keep living • your heart, lungs, and other *vital* organs — see also VITAL SIGNS

3 [*more ~; most ~*] : very lively or energetic • Exercise keeps her young and *vital*. • Their music stills seems fresh and *vital* after all these years.

— **vi·tal·ly** *adv* • A strong job market is *vitally* important to the economy.

vi·tal·i·ty /var'tæləti/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : a lively or energetic quality • the *vitality* of youth • A shopping district would bring new *vitality* [=life] to the downtown area. • Her prose is full of *vitality*. • His performance lacked *vitality*.

2 : the power or ability of something to continue to live, be successful, etc. • These scandals could threaten the *vitality* of the sport. • the economic *vitality* of our cities

vi·tal·ize /'vaɪtə,laɪz/ *verb -izes; -ized; -iz-ing* [+ *obj*] *chiefly US* : to give life or energy to (something) • They believe that cutting taxes will *vitalize* [=revitalize] the economy.

vi·tals /'vaɪtəlz/ *noun* [*plural*]

1 *old-fashioned* : the organs of the body (such as the heart, lungs, and liver) that are needed in order to keep living — sometimes used figuratively • the corruption that is gnawing at the *vitals* of the government

2 US, informal : VITAL SIGNS • The nurse checked the patient's *vitals*.

vital signs *noun* [*plural*] : important body functions (such as breathing and heartbeat) that are measured to see if someone is alive or healthy • The patient's *vital signs* were normal.

vi·ta·min /'vaɪtəməɪn, *Brit* 'vɪtəməɪn/ *noun, pl -mins* [count]

1 : a natural substance that is usually found in foods and that helps your body to be healthy • This cereal contains essential *vitamins* and minerals. • *vitamin* pills ✧ Most vitamins are named by letters. • Oranges are a good source of *vitamin C*. • Milk contains *vitamin D*.

2 : a pill containing vitamins • Did you remember to take your *vitamin*?

vitamin B₁ /-'bi:'wæn/ *noun* [*noncount*] : THIAMIN

vitamin B₂ /-'bi:'tu:/ *noun* [*noncount*] : RIBOFLAVIN

vi·ti·ate /ˈvɪtʃi,ert/ *verb* **-ates; -at-ed; -at-ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to make (something) less effective : to ruin or spoil (something) • The impact of the film was *vitiated* by poor acting.

vit·ri·ol /ˈvɪtrɪjəl/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : harsh and angry words • His speech was full of political *vitriol*.

– **vit·ri·ol·ic** /ˌvɪtriˈɑːlɪk/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] • She launched a *vitriolic* attack against us. • a *vitriolic* debate

vit·tles /ˈvɪtlz/ *noun* [*plural*] *US, informal + humorous* : food and drink : **VICTUALS** • I'll cook up some *vittles*.

vi·tu·per·a·tion /ˌvaɪ,tuːpəˈreɪʃən, Brit ˌvaɪ,tjuːpəˈreɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : harsh and angry criticism • their *vituperation* against/of the president • Voters are tired of all the *vituperation* in this campaign.

– **vi·tu·per·a·tive** /ˌvaɪˈtuːpərətɪv, Brit ˌvaɪˈtjuːpərətɪv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] • *vituperative* comments/remarks

¹**vi·va** /ˈviːvə/ *interj* — used to show that you support or approve of someone or something • *Viva America!* ♦ *Viva* comes from Italian and Spanish, where it means “long live.”

²**vi·va** /ˈvaɪvə/ *noun, pl vi·vas* [*count*] *Brit* : ²**VIVA VOCE**

vi·va·cious /ˌvəˈveɪʃəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : happy and lively in a way that is attractive — used especially of a woman • She has a *vivacious* personality. • his *vivacious* wife

– **vi·va·cious·ly** *adv* • She greeted us *vivaciously*. – **vi·va·cious·ness** *noun* [*noncount*] – **vi·vac·i·ty** /ˌvəˈvæsəti/ *noun* [*noncount*] • her natural *vivacity*

¹**vi·va vo·ce** /ˌvaɪvəˈvəʊsi/ *adj* : spoken rather than written : **ORAL** • a *viva voce* examination

– **viva voce** *adv*

²**viva voce** *noun, pl ~ vo·ces* [*count*] *Brit* : an oral examination given at a British university — called also *viva*

viv·id /ˈvɪvəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 *of a picture, memory, etc.* : seeming like real life because it is very clear, bright, or detailed • He gave a *vivid* description of the scene. • The book includes many *vivid* illustrations. • The dream was very *vivid*. • She could remember the dream *in vivid detail*. ♦ If you have a *vivid imagination*, you can imagine things that are not real very clearly and easily.

2 : very bright in color • The fabric was dyed a *vivid* red.

– **viv·id·ly** *adv* • I remember the incident *vividly*. • a *vividly* illustrated book – **viv·id·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

viv·i·fy /ˈvɪvəˌfaɪ/ *verb* **-fies; -fied; -fy·ing** [+ *obj*] *chiefly US* : to make (someone or something) more lively or vivid • details that *vivify* the narrative

vivi·sec·tion /ˌvɪvəˈsɛkʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the activity or practice of doing scientific or medical experiments on live animals

vix·en /ˈvɪksən/ *noun, pl -ens* [*count*]

1 : a female fox

2 *old-fashioned* : an angry and unpleasant woman : **SHREW**

3 *informal* : a sexually attractive woman • Hollywood *vixens*

viz /ˈvɪz/ *adv* — used before something that you are giving as an example • She limited her suggestions to the subjects she knows best, *viz* [=namely], layout and typography.

VJ /ˈviːdʒeɪ/ *noun, pl VJs* [*count*] : **VEEJAY**

V-neck /ˈviːnek/ *noun, pl -necks* [*count*] : a shirt, sweater, etc., with a neck that has an opening shaped like the letter V • He wore a cotton *V-neck*. • a *V-neck* sweater; *also* : the neck opening itself • a sweater with a *V-neck*

– **V-necked** /ˈviːnekt/ *adj, always used before a noun* • a *V-necked* sweater

vo·cab·u·lary /ˌvəʊˈkæbjəˌlɛri, Brit ˌvəʊˈkæbjələri/ *noun, pl -lar·ies*

1 [*count*] : the words that make up a language • the basic *vocabulary* of English

2 : all of the words known and used by a person [*noncount*] She has learned a lot of new *vocabulary*. [*count*] He has a large/wide *vocabulary*. [=he knows and uses many words] • He has a somewhat limited *vocabulary*. • Reading helped to expand/improve her *vocabulary*. • Our *passive vocabulary* [=the words we understand] is larger than our *active vocabulary*. [=the words we use ourselves] — sometimes used in an exaggerated way to make a forceful statement • (The word) “Quit” *is not in my vocabulary*. [=I will not quit; I refuse to quit]

3 [*count, noncount*] : words that are related to a particular subject • the *vocabulary* of the art world • The Internet has given us a whole new *vocabulary*.

4 [*count, noncount*] : a set of forms or elements that are used for expression in an art, in music, etc. • a rich musical *vocabulary* • architectural *vocabulary*

vo·cal /ˈvəʊkəl/ *adj*

1 : of, relating to, or produced by the voice • *vocal* sounds • the *vocal* organs [=the tongue, larynx, etc.] • *vocal* music [=music that is sung] • music with *vocal* and instrumental parts • *vocal* harmonies • a male *vocal* group [=a group of male singers]

2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : expressing opinions in a public and forceful way : **OUTSPOKEN** • She is a *vocal* critic of the new law. • He was very *vocal* in his criticism/support of me.

– **vo·cal·ly** *adv* • She was *vocally* opposed to the new law.

vocal cords *noun* [*plural*] : the thin pieces of folded tissue in your throat that help you to make sounds with your voice

vo·cal·ist /ˈvəʊkəlɪst/ *noun, pl -ists* [*count*] : **SINGER** • a pop *vocalist*

vo·cal·ize *also Brit vo·cal·ise* /ˈvəʊkəˌlaɪz/ *verb* **-iz·es; -ized; -iz·ing** *formal*

1 [+ *obj*] : to express (something) by speaking words • *vocalizing* your thoughts/feelings

2 : to make a sound with the voice [*no obj*] The male bird *vocalizes* to attract a mate. [+ *obj*] a baby *vocalizing* sounds

– **vo·cal·i·za·tion** *also Brit vo·cal·i·sa·tion* /ˌvəʊkələˈzeɪʃən, Brit ˌvəʊkəˌlaɪˈzeɪʃən/ *noun* [*count, noncount*]

vocals /ˈvəʊkəlz/ *noun* [*plural*] : the parts of a piece of music that are sung • He played the guitar while I sang (the) *vocals*. • The album features my sister on *vocals*.

vo·ca·tion /ˌvəʊˈkeɪʃən/ *noun, pl -tions*

1 [*count*] : a strong desire to spend your life doing a certain kind of work (such as religious work) • It was her *vocation* [=calling] to be a teacher. • This isn't just a job for me; it's a *vocation*. • people who follow a religious *vocation* • He never felt a real *sense of vocation*.

2 : the work that a person does or should be doing [*count*] his chosen *vocation* [=occupation] • She discovered architecture as her true *vocation* [=calling] while in college. • He feels he *missed his vocation* [=did not have the career he should have] by not becoming a doctor. [*noncount*] I'm a carpenter *by vocation*, but my hobby is painting.

vo·ca·tion·al /ˌvəʊˈkeɪʃən/ *adj* : relating to the special skills, training, etc., that you need for a particular job or occupation • *vocational* programs/courses • He went to a *vocational school* [= (US) *trade school*] to learn auto repair.

vo·cif·er·ous /ˌvəʊˈsɪfərəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : expressing feelings or opinions in a very loud or forceful way • He is her most *vociferous* critic/opponent. • He was *vociferous* in his support of the proposal. • a *vociferous* debate : expressed in a very loud or forceful way • *vociferous* disagreement • The decision was made over their *vociferous* objections.

– **vo·cif·er·ous·ly** *adv* • They applauded/objected *vociferously*.

vod·ka /ˈvɑːdkə/ *noun, pl -kas* [*count, noncount*] : a strong, clear alcoholic drink that is originally from Russia

vogue /ˈvəʊg/ *noun, pl vogues* : something (such as a way of dressing or behaving) that is fashionable or popular in a particular time and place [*count*] the latest *vogues* • the new/current *vogue* for scarves • His art seems to be *enjoying a vogue* these days. [*noncount*] Short skirts are *in vogue* right now. = Short skirts are (all) the *vogue* right now. • When did Thai food come *into vogue*? • That style went/fell *out of vogue* years ago.

– **vogue** *adj, always used before a noun* • a *vogue* word/phrase [=a word/phrase that is popular for a period of time]

¹**voice** /ˈvɔɪs/ *noun, pl voic·es*

1 : the sounds that you make with your mouth and throat when you are speaking, singing, etc. [*count*] He has a deep *voice*. • a loud/booming *voice* • a high/shrill *voice* • her small/timid *voice* • “Can we speak privately?” she said in a low/soft/quiet *voice*. • My teenage son's *voice* is beginning to change/break. [=it is beginning to sound deeper like a man's voice] • Her *voice* was breaking [=it was changing in sound because of emotion] as she said goodbye. • a *voice* on the radio • We heard *voices* coming from the next room. • She does the *voices* for several cartoon characters. • Please *keep your voice down*. [=please speak quietly] • Please *lower your voice*. [=please speak more quietly] • Father was stern, but he never *raised his voice*. [=spoke loudly or harshly] • She was yelling *at the top of her voice*. [=as loudly as she could] [*noncount*] I don't like your *tone of voice*. [=the way you are speaking to me]

2 a [*noncount*] : the ability to speak • I shouted so much that I *lost my voice*. b [*count*] : the ability to sing • She has a ter-

rific *voice*. • He was *in good voice* [=able to sing well] for his recital.

3 a [*singular*] : a right or way to express your wishes, opinions, etc. • The students complained that they had no *voice* [=say] in school affairs. • Town meetings give people a *voice* in local politics. **b** [*count*] : a wish, opinion, etc., that you express openly or publicly • Listen to the *voice* of the people. • Please vote and make your *voices* heard! **c** [*count*] : a thought or feeling that comes to you especially when you do not expect it • A little *voice* in my head told me not to trust him. • You must learn to trust your *inner voice*. **d** [*count*] : a person who expresses a wish, opinion, etc. • A few *voices* in the crowd expressed displeasure. • She was *the voice of reason* in our group. [=she stopped us from doing foolish things]

4 [*count*] *grammar* : a verb form that shows whether the subject of a sentence does or receives the action of the verb ♦ In the *active voice*, the subject of the sentence does the action. • "I found a quarter" is in the *active voice*. In the *passive voice*, the subject of the sentence receives the action. • "He was found by the police" is in the *passive voice*.

find your voice see ¹FIND

to give voice to formal : to express (a thought, feeling, etc.) to someone • Therapy allowed her *to give voice to* her fears. *with one voice* — used to say that all the people in a group say the same thing together, express the same opinion, etc. • When asked if they wanted to help, they answered *with one voice* "Yes!" • They spoke *with one voice* on the need to reduce taxes. [=they all agreed about the need to reduce taxes]

²**voice** *verb* *voices*; *voiced*; *voicing* [+ *obj*] : to express (something) in words • He *voiced* concern about safety issues. [=he said that he felt concern about safety issues] • The senator angrily *voiced* his objection to the bill.

voice box *noun*, *pl* ~ **boxes** [*count*] : the part of the throat that contains the vocal cords : LARYNX

voiced *adj*

1 : having a voice of a particular kind — used in combination • A deep-*voiced* man answered the phone.

2 *technical, of a sound* : made by moving your vocal cords • "M" is a *voiced* consonant. — opposite VOICELESS

voiceless /'voɪsləs/ *adj*

1 : not large or powerful enough to be noticed by the government, the media, etc. • a *voiceless* minority

2 *technical, of a sound* : made without moving your vocal cords • "S" is a *voiceless* consonant. — opposite VOICED

voice mail *noun*, *pl* ~ **mails** [*noncount*] : a system in which callers can leave recorded messages for you over the telephone • Just leave a message on my *voice mail*.; also [*count*] : a message left using this system • I left her a *voice mail*. • You have two new *voice mails*. • a *voice-mail* message

voice-over /'voɪs,ovə/ *noun*, *pl* -**overs** [*count*] : words that are spoken in a movie or television program by a person who is not seen • He does a lot of *voice-overs* [=narration] for commercials.

¹**void** /'vɔɪd/ *adj*

1 *law* : having no legal force or effect • The contract is *void*. • This sales offer is *void* where prohibited by law. — often used in the phrase *null and void* • The law was declared *null and void*.

2 *formal* : not containing anything : EMPTY • a *void* space *void of* : not having (something that is expected or wanted) : completely lacking (something) • a book *void of* [=devoid of] interest • He is *void of* charm. [=he has no charm]

²**void** *noun*, *pl* **voids** [*count*] : a large empty space • the great *voids* between galaxies — often used figuratively • After she left, there was a *void* in my life. • When he retires, it will be hard to find someone to *fill the void*.

³**void** *verb* *voids*; *voided*; *voiding* [+ *obj*] *law* : to make (something) invalid : to say that (something) is no longer in effect • The judge *voided* the contract. • Any unauthorized repairs will *void* the warranty.

— **voidable** /'vɔɪdəbəl/ *adj*, *law* • a *voidable* contract

voi-là or voi-la /vwa'la:/ *interj* — used when something is being presented or shown to someone • "Voilà!" said the magician as he pulled a rabbit from the hat. • Add a little oil and vinegar to the lettuce, and *voilà*—you have an easy salad.

voile /'voɪəl/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a soft, light fabric that you can see through slightly and that is used for making curtains, summer clothes, etc.

vol. *abbr* volume — used in titles • The Works of Shakespeare, *Vol. I*

¹**vol-a-tile** /'vɔ:lətəl, Brit 'vɒlə,tajəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 a : likely to change in a very sudden or extreme way • The stock market can be very *volatile*. **b** : having or showing extreme or sudden changes of emotion • She is a *volatile* woman. • He has a very *volatile* temper. [=he gets angry very suddenly and violently]

2 : likely to become dangerous or out of control • The protests are increasing, creating a *volatile* situation in the capital.

3 *technical* : easily becoming a gas at a fairly low temperature • a *volatile* solvent • highly *volatile* compounds

— **vol-a-til-i-ty** /,vɔ:lə'tɪləti/ *noun* [*noncount*]

²**volatile** *noun*, *pl* -**tiles** [*count*] *technical* : a chemical or compound that changes into a gas easily

vol-ca-nic /vɒl'kænɪk/ *adj*

1 : of, relating to, or produced by a volcano • a *volcanic* eruption • *volcanic* ash/rock • *volcanic* activity

2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] *informal* : very angry or violent • a *volcanic* temper • *volcanic* emotions/rages

vol-ca-no /vɒl'keɪnə/ *noun*, *pl* -**noes** or -**nos** [*count*] : a mountain with a hole in the top or side that sometimes sends out rocks, ash, lava, etc., in a sudden explosion (called an eruption) • The *volcano* last erupted 25 years ago. • an active *volcano* [=a volcano that could erupt at any time or that is erupting now] • a dormant *volcano* [=a volcano that is not currently active] • an extinct *volcano* [=a volcano that does not erupt anymore]

vole /'vəʊl/ *noun*, *pl* **voles** [*count*] : a small animal like a mouse that usually lives underground and that can be harmful to crops and gardens

vo-li-tion /vəʊ'lɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : the power to make your own choices or decisions • He left the company *of his own volition*. [=voluntarily, willingly; he left because he wanted to, not because he was forced to]

— **vo-li-tion-al** /vəʊ'lɪʃən/ *adj* • *volitional* acts

¹**vol-ley** /'vɔ:lɪ/ *noun*, *pl* -**leys** [*count*]

1 *sports* : a shot or kick made by hitting a ball before it touches the ground • (*tennis*) She won the point with a backhand *volley*. — compare GROUND STROKE

2 : a large number of bullets, arrows, stones, etc., that are shot or thrown at the same time • The tank was hit by a *volley* of bullets. • a *volley* of arrows

3 : a lot of comments, questions, etc., that are directed at a person very quickly • She was overwhelmed by a *volley* of questions from the press. • a *volley* of criticism

²**volley** *verb* -**leys**; -**leyed**; -**ley-ing** [+ *obj*] *sports* : to hit (a ball) while it is in the air and before it touches the ground • She *volleyed* the shot over the net.

vol-ley-ball /'vɔ:lɪ,bɔ:l/ *noun*, *pl* -**balls**

1 [*noncount*] : a game in which two teams of players hit a large ball back and forth over a high net

2 [*count*] : the ball used to play volleyball — see picture at BALL

volt /'vəʊlt/ *noun*, *pl* **volts** [*count*] : a unit for measuring the force of an electrical current • 15 *volts* of electricity • a nine-volt battery — abbr. *V*

volt-age /'vəʊltɪdʒ/ *noun*, *pl* -**ages** : the force of an electrical current that is measured in volts. [*noncount*] We measured the change in *voltage* across the circuit. • a high-*voltage* area [*count*] high *voltages*

volte-face /,vɔ:l'tʃe:s/ *noun* [*singular*] chiefly *Brit*, *formal* : a complete change of attitude or opinion : ABOUT-FACE • They did a sudden *volte-face*.

volt-me-ter /'vəʊlt,mɪ:tə/ *noun*, *pl* -**ters** [*count*] : a device that measures voltage

vol-u-ble /'vɔ:ljəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : talking a lot in an energetic and rapid way • a *voluble* host

— **vol-u-bly** /'vɔ:ljəbli/ *adv*

vol-ume /'vɔ:l,ju:m/ *noun*, *pl* -**umes**

1 a [*noncount*] : the amount of sound that is produced by a television, radio, stereo, etc. • The *volume* is too loud. • Can you turn the *volume* up/down? • playing music at full/top/high/low *volume* • This knob controls *volume*. **b** [*count*] : a knob, lever, etc., that controls the amount of sound something makes • She fiddled with the *volume* on the stereo.

2 : an amount of something [*count*] a high/low/large/small *volume* of sales • Huge *volumes* of park visitors come through every weekend. [*noncount*] an increase in traffic *volume*

3 : the amount of space that is filled by something [*count*] The box has a *volume* of three cubic meters. [*noncount*] We measure the items by weight, not *by volume*.

4 [*count*] **a** : a book • This thin little *volume* is a delightful



read. **b** : a book that is part of a series or set of books • a long novel that was published in three *volumes* • The first *volume* of the series was disappointing, but I hear the second *volume* is better. **c** : one of the magazines, newspapers, etc., in a series • The article appears in *volume* 19, number 4.

speak volumes : to provide a lot of information about something : to show something very clearly • The company's decision to ignore the problem *speaks volumes* [=says a lot] about its lack of leadership.

vo-lu-mi-nous /və'lu:mənəs/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *formal*

1 a : very large : containing a lot of space • a *voluminous* room • the building's high ceilings and *voluminous* spaces **b of clothing** : using large amounts of fabric : very full • a *voluminous* skirt

2 : having very many words or pages • They carried on a *voluminous* correspondence. [=they wrote many long letters to each other] • a *voluminous* report • a writer of *voluminous* output

— **vo-lu-mi-nous-ly** *adv* • He wrote *voluminously*.

vol-un-tary /'vɑ:lən,teri, Brit 'vɒləntəri/ *adj*

1 : done or given because you want to and not because you are forced to : done or given by choice • a *voluntary* agreement/decision • *voluntary* retirement • *voluntary* donations • Participation in the program is completely *voluntary*. • He was charged with *voluntary* manslaughter. — **opposite** INVOLUNTARY

2 a : provided or supported by people who do work without being paid • a *voluntary* [=volunteer] association/organization **b** : doing work without being paid • She works for the charity on a *voluntary* basis. [=she works as a volunteer for the charity] • (*chiefly* Brit) Several *voluntary workers* [=volunteers] help out at the nursing home.

3 : able to be controlled consciously • *voluntary* bodily movements • the *voluntary* muscles that control urination — **opposite** INVOLUNTARY

— **vol-un-tari-ly** /,vɑ:lən'terəli, Brit 'vɒləntərəli/ *adv* • They *voluntarily* submitted to the testing. • Her confession was made *voluntarily*.

1 vol-un-teer /,vɑ:lən'tiə/ *noun, pl -teers* [count] : someone who does something without being forced to do it: such as **a** : a person who chooses to join the military **b** : a person who does work without getting paid to do it • *Volunteers* are needed to help with the bake sale. • The school was built by *volunteers*.

2 volunteer *verb -teers; -teered; -teer-ing*

1 [no obj] **a** : to offer to do something without being forced to or without getting paid to do it • I *volunteered* to do the job. = I *volunteered* for the job. **b** : to choose to join the military • Our son *volunteered* for military service.

2 [+ obj] : to give (something) without being forced to or without getting paid for it • I *volunteered* my services. • He would not *volunteer* any information about her whereabouts.

3 [+ obj] : to say that someone will do something without asking if he or she wants to do it • I just found out that Mom *volunteered* me to babysit. [=that Mom said I would babysit without asking me if I wanted to]

3 volunteer *adj, always used before a noun* : of, relating to, or done by volunteers • a *volunteer* army/organization • *volunteer* work

vo-lup-tu-ous /və'lʌptʃəwəs/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 of a woman : very attractive because of having large hips and breasts • a *voluptuous* movie star

2 literary : giving pleasure to the senses • a *voluptuous* meal • *voluptuous* prose

— **vo-lup-tu-ous-ly** *adv* — **vo-lup-tu-ous-ness** *noun* [non-count]

1 vom-it /'vɑ:mət/ *verb -its; -it-ed; -it-ing* : to have the food, liquid, etc., that is in your stomach come out through your mouth because you are sick [no obj] I feel like I am going to *vomit*. [= (less formally) throw up] • The dog *vomited* on the floor. [+ obj] The patient was *vomiting* blood.

2 vomit *noun* [non-count] : the food, liquid, etc., that comes out of your body through your mouth when you vomit

1 voo-doo /'vu:du:/ *noun* [non-count] : a religion that is practiced chiefly in Haiti ♦ People often associate voodoo with magic and spells.

2 voodoo *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : of or relating to voodoo • a *voodoo* priest • *voodoo* rituals

2 chiefly US, disapproving : not at all sensible or achievable : extremely unrealistic • *voodoo* economics

vo-ra-cious /və'reɪʃəs/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : having or showing a tendency to eat very large amounts of food • a *vo-*

racious eater/predator • He has a *voracious* appetite. — often used figuratively • I'm a *voracious* reader. • She has a *voracious* appetite for knowledge.

— **vo-ra-cious-ly** *adv* • She ate *voraciously*. — **vo-rac-i-ty** /və'ræsəti/ *noun* [non-count]

vor-tex /'vɒɹ,teks/ *noun, pl vor-ti-ces* /'vɒɹtə,sɪz/ *also vor-tex-es* /'vɒɹ,teksəz/ [count] *technical* : a mass of spinning air, liquid, etc., that pulls things into its center — sometimes used figuratively • He was caught in a swirling *vortex* of terror.

vo-ta-ry /'vɒtəri/ *noun, pl -ries* [count] *formal + old-fashioned* : a devoted follower of or believer in a religion, a cause, etc. • *votaries* of freedom

1 vote /'vout/ *verb votes; vot-ed; vot-ing*

1 [no obj] : to make an official choice for or against someone or something by casting a ballot, raising your hand, speaking your choice aloud, etc. • Citizens will *vote* today for their new governor. • Did you *vote* in the last election? • The committee hasn't yet *voted* on the matter. • She generally *votes* Republican/Democratic. • Congress *voted* 121 to 16 to pass the bill. • He *voted against* the proposal. • Most people *voted for* school reform. = Most people *voted in favor of* school reform.

2 [+ obj] : to make a decision about (someone or something) by voting: such as **a** : to make (something) legal by a vote • They *voted* the referendum into law. **b** : to choose (someone or something) for an award by voting — usually used as (be) *voted* • He was *voted* Bachelor of the Year. **c** : to officially agree to give (someone) something by voting • Senators *voted* themselves a pay raise despite the budget shortfall.

3 [+ obj] : to suggest (something) for others to agree or disagree with • We have to decide what to do about dinner. I *vote* that we get a pizza.

vote down [phrasal verb] *vote (something) down or vote down (something)* : to defeat or reject (something) by voting • The proposal was *voted down*.

vote in [phrasal verb] *vote (someone) in or vote in (someone)* : to elect (someone) to an office or position • She was *voted in* (as vice president) last year.

vote on/onto [phrasal verb] *vote (someone) on/onto (something)* : to decide by a vote that (someone) will be allowed to become a member of (a group, team, etc.) • You have been *voted onto* the team. • She was *voted on* the committee.

vote out [phrasal verb] *vote (someone) out or vote out (someone)* : to decide by a vote that (someone) will no longer have an office or position • She was *voted out* (of office) last year.

vote with your feet : to show your dislike of a particular place or situation by leaving and going somewhere else • When the restaurant changed its menu, many former customers *voted with their feet* and stopped coming.

vote with your wallet or US vote (with) your pocketbook **1** : to vote in a way that helps you financially **2** : to show what you like and dislike by choosing where to shop and what to buy • If our customers don't like our products, they will *vote with their wallets*. [=they will not buy our products]

— **voting** *noun* [non-count] • The polls will open for *voting* at 8:00. • *Voting* was heavy [=a lot of people voted] in the 5th Precinct.

2 vote *noun, pl votes*

1 a [count] : the official choice that you make in an election, meeting, etc., by casting a ballot, raising your hand, speaking your choice aloud, etc. • They are counting/tallying the *votes* now. • There are 20 *votes* in favor and 12 against. • He got 56 percent of the *votes*. • She's campaigning hard to raise money and win *votes*. • People waited in line to *cast their votes*. • I *cast my vote* for the Republican/Democratic candidate. **b** [singular] : the result of voting • The *vote* was in her favor. • She won *by a vote* of 206 to 57.

2 the vote **a** : the legal right to vote • In 1920, American women won *the vote*. **b** : the whole group of people in an area who have the right to vote — usually used in the phrase *get out the vote* • Volunteers for his campaign helped *get out the vote* [=persuade people to go vote] on Election Day. **c** : the total number of votes made in an election • The candidate won only 10 percent of *the vote*. **d** : a particular group of people who have the right to vote • He tried to win *the* youth/Black/farm/business *vote*.

3 [singular] : an occurrence in which a group of people make a decision about something by voting • Let's take a *vote*. All those in favor say "aye." • The issue never *came to a vote*. •

The referendum will be *put to a vote*.

vote of confidence *noun*, *pl* **votes of confidence** [*count*]

1 : a formal process in which people (such as the members of a legislature) vote in order to indicate whether or not they support a leader, government, etc.

2 : a statement or action that shows continuing support and approval for someone • Many people say the coach should be fired, but he was given a *vote of confidence* by the team president this week. [=the team president said that he supports and has confidence in the coach]

vote of no confidence *noun*, *pl* **votes of no confidence** [*count*] : a formal vote by which people (such as the members of a legislature) indicate that they do not support a leader, government, etc. • He was forced to resign after a *vote of no confidence* by the board of directors.

voter /'voutə/ *noun*, *pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who votes or who has the legal right to vote • minority *voters* • Less than 10 percent of (the) *voters* favor the measure. • voter registration

voting booth *noun*, *pl* ~ **booths** [*count*] *chiefly* US : a small, enclosed area in which a person stands while casting a vote — called also (*Brit*) *polling booth*

voting machine *noun*, *pl* ~ **-chines** [*count*] : a machine that you use to cast a vote and that records and counts all of the votes made for each possible choice

vo-tive /'voutiv/ *adj*, *always used before a noun*, *formal* : consisting of or expressing a religious vow, wish, or desire • a *votive* prayer : offered or performed as an expression of thanks or devotion to God • *votive* offerings

votive candle *noun*, *pl* ~ **-dles** [*count*] : a small candle that is sometimes used in religious ceremonies

vouch /'vaʊtʃ/ *verb* **vouch-es; vouched; vouch-ing**
vouch for [*phrasal verb*] *vouch for* (someone or something) : to say that (someone or something) is honest, true, or good • I can *vouch for* the authenticity of the document. • We'll *vouch for* him. He's a good guy.

vouch-er /'vaʊtʃə/ *noun*, *pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a document that gives you the right to get something (such as a product or service) without paying for it • That item is out of stock, but we'll give you a *voucher* for 10 percent off any other item in the store. • a travel *voucher*

vouch-safe /,vaʊtʃ'seɪf/ *verb* **-safes; -safed; -saf-ing** [+ *obj*] *formal + old-fashioned* : to give (something) to someone as a promise or a privilege • He *vouchsafed* the secret to only a few chosen disciples.

¹**vow** /'vaʊ/ *noun*, *pl* **vows** [*count*] : a serious promise to do something or to behave in a certain way • The monks take a *vow* of silence/chastity/poverty. • marriage/wedding *vows* • The bride and groom exchanged *vows*. • The mayor made a *vow* to reduce crime.

²**vow** *verb* **vows; vowed; vow-ing** [+ *obj*] : to make a serious promise to do something or to behave in a certain way — often followed by *to + verb* • The mayor *vowed to reduce* crime. • I *vow to honor and cherish* you all my days. — often + *that* • I *vowed that* I would never lie to her again.

vow-el /'vawəl/ *noun*, *pl* **-els** [*count*]

1 : a speech sound made with your mouth open and your tongue in the middle of your mouth not touching your teeth, lips, etc.

2 : a letter (such as *a, e, i, o, u*, and sometimes *y* in English) that represents a vowel — compare CONSONANT

¹**voy-age** /'voɪdʒ/ *noun*, *pl* **-ag-es** [*count*] : a long journey to a distant or unknown place especially over water or through outer space • The Titanic sank on her maiden *voyage*. • He wrote about his many *voyages* into the South Seas. • a manned *voyage* to Mars — often used figuratively • a spiritual *voyage* • a documentary on his *voyage* from rags to riches • a *voyage* of self-discovery

²**voyage** *verb*, *always followed by an adverb or preposition* **-ages; -aged; -ag-ing** [*no obj*] : to take a long journey usually by ship or boat • They *voyaged to* distant lands. • He spent his youth *voyaging around* the globe.

voy-ag-er /'voɪdʒə/ *noun*, *pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who makes a long journey to a distant or unknown place especially by ship or boat • Columbus and other *voyagers* who traveled to the New World

voy-eur /voɪ'ə/ *noun*, *pl* **-eurs** [*count*]

1 : a person who gets sexual pleasure from secretly watching other people have sex

2 : a person who likes seeing and talking or writing about something that is considered to be private • *political voyeurs* — **voy-eur-ism** /voɪ'əɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] • the cheap *voyeurism* of reality television shows — **voy-eur-is-tic** /,voɪə'ɪstɪk/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] • *voyeuristic* pleasures

VP *abbr* vice president

VR *abbr* virtual reality

vroom /'vru:m/ *noun* [*count*] *informal* : the sound made by the engine of a car, truck, etc., when it is running very fast • the *vrooms* of engines being revved — often used as an interjection to imitate the sound of an engine • *Vroom, vroom!*

— **vroom** *verb* **vrooms; vroomed; vroom-ing** [*no obj*] • We heard him *vrooming* around town on his motorcycle.

VS or **vs.** *abbr* versus • It'll be the Red Sox *vs.* the Yankees in tonight's game. • Brown *vs.* Board of Education

V sign *noun*, *pl* ~ **signs** [*count*]

1 : a sign that is made by holding your hand up with your palm facing out and your index and middle fingers in a “V” shape and that is used to mean “victory” or “peace”

2 *Brit* : a rude gesture that is made by holding your hand up with the palm facing you and the index and middle fingers in a “V” shape

vt *abbr* transitive verb

Vt or **VT** *abbr* Vermont

vul-ca-nized *also* *Brit* **vul-ca-nised** /'vʌlkə,naɪzd/ *adj*, *technical, of rubber* : treated with heat and chemicals to add strength and other useful qualities

— **vul-ca-ni-za-tion** *also* *Brit* **vul-ca-ni-sa-tion** /,vʌlkə-nə'zeɪʃən, 'vʌlkə,naɪ'zeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] • the *vulcanization* of rubber

vul-gar /'vʌlgə/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 *disapproving* : not having or showing good manners, good taste, or politeness • He was a *vulgar* man. • She had a coarse, *vulgar* laugh. • *vulgar* table manners • a *vulgar* [=tasteless] display of wealth • I will not tolerate such *vulgar* language in my home. • *vulgar* jokes

2 : relating to the common people or the speech of common people • *vulgar* Latin

— **vul-gar-ly** *adv* • *vulgarly* sexual jokes

vul-gar-i-ty /,vʌl'gerəti/ *noun*, *pl* **-ties**

1 [*noncount*] : the quality or state of not having good taste, manners, politeness, etc. • a comedian known for her *vulgarity* • I was shocked by the *vulgarity* of his language.

2 [*count*] : something (such as a word) that is offensive or rude • He uttered a *vulgarity* and was silent. • We have a policy against printing *vulgaries* in our magazine.

vul-gar-ize *also* *Brit* **vul-gar-ise** /'vʌlgə,raɪz/ *verb* **-iz-es; -ized; -iz-ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (something) worse by making it less formal or more ordinary • The movie is a *vulgarized* version of the original story.

— **vul-gar-i-za-tion** *also* *Brit* **vul-gar-i-sa-tion** /,vʌlgərə-'zeɪʃən, *Brit* /,vʌlgə,raɪ'zeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

vul-ner-a-ble /'vʌlnərəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : easily hurt or harmed physically, mentally, or emotionally • a *vulnerable* young woman • He was very *vulnerable* after his divorce. — often + *to* • The patient will be more/most *vulnerable to* infection immediately after surgery.

2 : open to attack, harm, or damage • The troops were in a *vulnerable* position. • The fort was undefended and *vulnerable*. — often + *to* • Your computer is *vulnerable to* viruses.

— **vul-ner-a-bil-i-ty** /,vʌlnərə'bɪləti/ *noun*, *pl* **-ties** [*count, noncount*]

vul-pine /'vʌl,pain/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : of, relating to, or similar to a fox • a *vulpine* smile

vul-ture /'vʌltʃə/ *noun*, *pl* **-tures** [*count*]

1 : any one of several large birds that eat dead animals and have a small and featherless head — see color picture on page C9; see also TURKEY VULTURE

2 *disapproving* : a person who tries to take advantage of someone who is in a very bad situation • As soon as they learned of his arrest, the media *vultures* started circling.

vul-va /'vʌlvə/ *noun*, *pl* **vul-vas** or **vul-vae** /'vʌl,vi:/ [*count*] : the parts of the female sexual organs that are on the outside of the body

vying *present participle of* VIE



W

¹**w** or **W** /ˈdʌbəl,juː/ *noun*, *pl* **w's** or **ws** or **W's** or **Ws** /ˈdʌbəl,juːz/ : the 23rd letter of the English alphabet [count] a word that starts with a *w* [noncount] a word that starts with

²**w** or **W** *abbr* **1** watt • a 60**W** light bulb **2** west, western • Merge onto Rt. 9**W**. **3** width • The area of a rectangle is *L* x *W*.

WA *abbr* Washington ♦ *WA* is an abbreviation for the U.S. state of Washington and is not used to refer to the city Washington, D.C.

wacko /ˈwækou/ *noun*, *pl* **wack-os** [count] *US, informal* : a person who is crazy or very strange and unusual • She's nice but her sister's a real *wacko*.

— **wacko** *adj* [more ~; most ~] • They have some *wacko* ideas. • His father's *wacko*. [=wacky]

wacky /ˈwæki/ *adj* **wack-i-er**; **-est** [also more ~; most ~] *informal* : amusing and very strange • *wacky* ideas • My *wacky* aunt takes a swim before the lake freezes every winter. • the *wacky* world of his imagination

— **wack-i-ness** /ˈwækinəs/ *noun* [noncount]

¹**wad** /ˈwɑːd/ *noun*, *pl* **wads** [count]

1 : a small mass or ball of soft material — usually + *of* • *Wads of crumpled paper* littered the floor. • She spit a *wad of gum* into the trash. • a *wad of cotton*

2 a : a thick roll or folded pile of paper money or papers — usually + *of* • She pulled a *wad of \$20 bills* out of her pocket. • a *wad of cash* **b** *US, informal* : a large amount of money • He spent a *wad* on clothes. • They have *wads* of cash. [=lots of money]

²**wad** *verb* **wads**; **wad-ded**; **wad-ding** [+ *obj*] *chiefly US* : to crush or press (something, such as paper) into a small, tight ball — usually + *up* • He *wadded up* the paper and threw it in the trash. • The sweater was *wadded up* in the bottom of the backpack.

wad-ding /ˈwɑːdɪŋ/ *noun* [noncount] : a soft mass or sheet of material used to fill a space, protect something, etc. • cotton *wadding*

wad-dle /ˈwɑːdl/ *verb* **wad-dles**; **wad-dled**; **wad-dling** [no *obj*] : to walk with short steps while moving from side to side like a duck • He *waddled* down the hallway. • A fat goose *waddled* across the yard.

— **waddle** *noun* [singular] • She walked with a *waddle*.

wade /ˈweɪd/ *verb* **wades**; **wad-ed**; **wad-ing**

1 : to walk through water [no *obj*] We *waded* into the ocean. • I jumped off the boat and *waded* back to shore. • (*US*) They took off their sandals and *waded* [= (*Brit*) *paddled*] at the edge of the pond. [+ *obj*] They *waded* the river. [=they crossed the river by walking through the water]

2 a : to move or proceed with difficulty [no *obj*] Police *waded* into the crowd. • We *waded* through the crowded bus station. • It took several weeks to *wade* through all the evidence. [+ *obj*] We *waded* our way through the crowd. **b** [no *obj*] : to become involved in a discussion, situation, activity, etc., in a forceful, direct, or careless way — usually + *in* or *into* • Most politicians would have tried to avoid the subject, but he *waded right in*. • She *waded right into* their argument.

wad-er /ˈweɪdər/ *noun*, *pl* **-ers**

1 *waders* [plural] : high waterproof boots or pants worn for walking or standing in deep water especially while fishing — see picture at **FISHING**

2 [count] : **WADING BIRD**

wading bird *noun*, *pl* ~ **birds** [count] : a bird with long legs (such as a heron) that finds its food in water — called also *wader*

wading pool *noun*, *pl* ~ **pools** [count] *US* : a shallow pool for children to play in — called also (*Brit*) *paddling pool*

wa-fer /ˈweɪfər/ *noun*, *pl* **-fers** [count]

1 : a thin, crisp cracker

2 : a round, thin piece of bread eaten during the Christian Communion ceremony

3 : a small, round, thin object • silicon *wafers*

wafer-thin *adj* : extremely thin and flat • *wafer-thin* slices

¹**waf-*file*** /ˈwɑːfəl/ *noun*, *pl* **waf-fles** [count] : a crisp cake with a pattern of deep squares on both sides that is made by cooking batter in a special device (called a waffle iron) • He had

waffles for breakfast. — compare

³**WAFFLE**

²**waffle** *verb* **waffles**; **waf-fled**; **waf-fling** [no *obj*] *informal*

1 *US* : to be unable or unwilling to make a clear decision about what to do — often + *on* • Her opponent has accused her of *waf-fling on* the important issues.

2 *Brit* : to talk or write a lot without saying anything important or interesting — often + *on* • His uncle was *waffling on* about politics.

³**waffle** *noun* [noncount] *Brit, informal* : foolish or dull talk or writing that continues for a long time • The speech was a lot/load of *waffle* about politics. — compare ¹**WAFFLE**

waffle iron *noun*, *pl* ~ **irons** [count] : a device used to cook waffles

waft /ˈwɑːft/ *verb*, always followed by an adverb or preposition **wafts**; **waft-ed**; **waft-ing** : to move lightly through the air [no *obj*] The smell of chicken soup *wafted* up to my bedroom.

• The sound of music *wafted* softly into the yard from our neighbor's house. [+ *obj*] A breeze *wafted* the scent of roses towards our table.

— **waft** *noun*, *pl* **wafts** [count] • a *waft* of smoke/perfume

¹**wag** /ˈwæɡ/ *verb* **wags**; **wagged**; **wag-ging** : to move something from side to side repeatedly [+ *obj*] The dog *wagged* its tail. • She *wagged* her finger at the children as she scolded them. • He *wagged* his head back and forth. [no *obj*] The dog's tail began to *wag* excitedly.

the tail wagging the dog see ¹**TAIL**

tongues (are) wagging see ¹**TONGUE**

²**wag** *noun*, *pl* **wags** [count] : a movement from side to side : a wagging movement • He answered with a *wag* of his head/finger. • the *wag* of a dog's tail — see also **CHIN-WAG** — compare ³**WAG**

³**wag** *noun*, *pl* **wags** [count] *old-fashioned* : a clever person who makes lots of jokes : **JOKER** • He was known as quite a *wag*. — compare ²**WAG**

¹**wage** /ˈweɪdʒ/ *noun*, *pl* **wag-es** [count] : an amount of money that a worker is paid based on the number of hours, days, etc., that are worked • a *wage* of \$14 an hour = an hourly *wage* of \$14 • Both of them make decent *wages*. • The table and chairs cost two weeks' *wages*. • The company offers competitive *wages* and good benefits. • The company gave workers a four percent *wage* increase this year. — compare **SALARY**; see also **LIVING WAGE**, **MINIMUM WAGE**, **STARVATION WAGES**

²**wage** *verb* **wages**; **waged**; **wag-ing** [+ *obj*] : to start and continue (a war, battle, etc.) in order to get or achieve something • They *waged* a guerrilla war against the government. • Local activists are *waging* a campaign to end homelessness in the region. • They have *waged* [=fought] a battle against the proposed new law.

waged *adj*, *Brit* : earning or paying wages • *waged* labor • *waged* workers — opposite **UNWAGED**

wage earner *noun*, *pl* ~ **-ers** [count] : someone who works for wages or a salary • Most *wage earners* were not affected by the income tax increase.

¹**wa-ger** /ˈweɪdʒər/ *noun*, *pl* **-gers** [count]

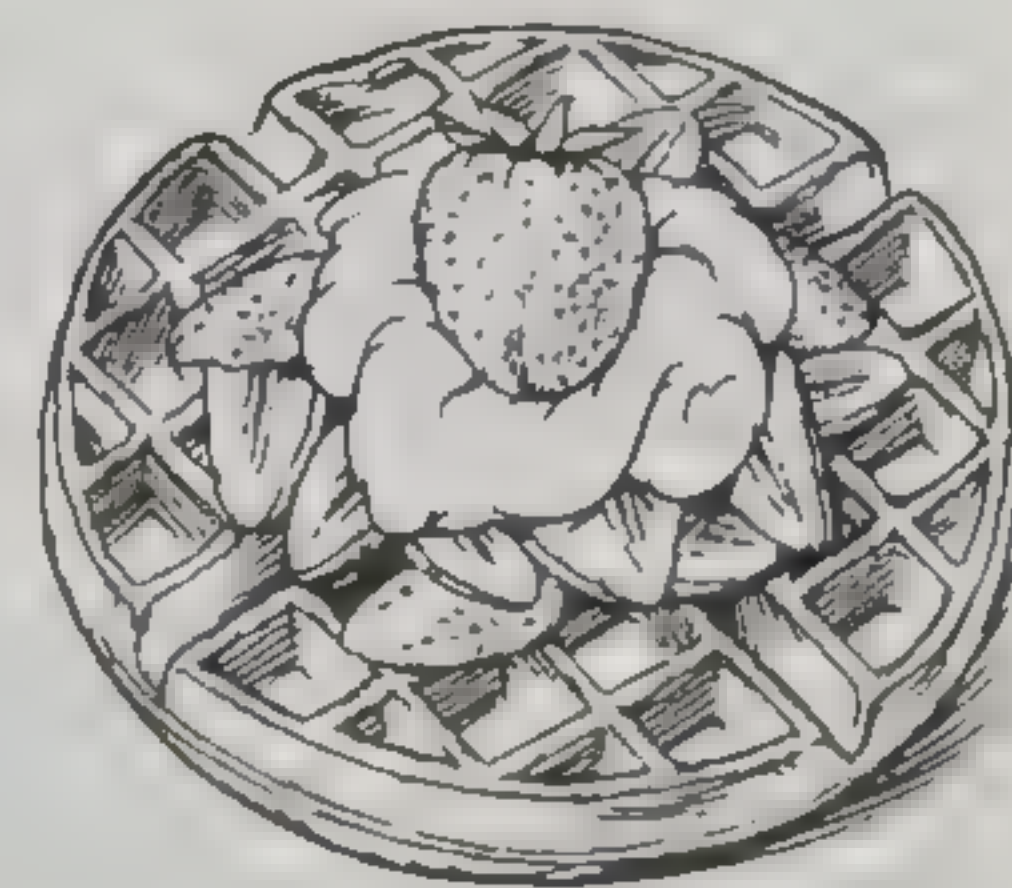
1 : an agreement in which people try to guess what will happen and the person who guesses wrong has to give something (such as money) to the person who guesses right : **BET** • He has a *wager* on the game. • a friendly *wager*

2 : the money or other valuable thing that you could win or lose in a bet • I don't think the horse will win. What's your *wager*? • I *placed/made a wager* on the horse. [=I bet money on the horse]

²**wager** *verb* **-gers**; **-gered**; **-ger-ing**

1 : to risk losing something (such as money) if your guess about what will happen is wrong : **BET** [+ *obj*] She *waged* \$50 on the game. [no *obj*] I wouldn't *wager* against them.

2 *informal* — used in the phrase *I'll wager* to indicate what you think will happen or what you believe is probably true • He'll get promoted, *I'll wager*. [=I believe] • *I'll wager* that



waffle

most people have never heard of him.

wag-gish /'wæɡɪʃ/ *adj* : silly and playful • *waggish* pranks • *waggish* humor • a *waggish* writer

— **wag-gish-ly** *adv* — **wag-gish-ness** *noun* [noncount]

wag-gle /'wæɡəl/ *verb* **wag-gles**; **wag-gled**; **wag-gling** : to move up and down or from side to side repeatedly [+ *obj*] He can *waggle* his ears. • She *waggled* [=wagged] her finger at me. [no *obj*] He can make his ears *waggle*.

— **waggle** *noun* [singular]

wag-on /'wæɡən/ *noun*, *pl* -ons [count]

1 : a vehicle with four wheels that is used for carrying heavy loads or passengers and that is usually pulled by animals (such as horses) • Pioneers crossed the American Midwest in *wagons*. — see also **BANDWAGON**, **CHUCK WAGON**, **COVERED WAGON**, **PADDY WAGON**, **PATROL WAGON**

2 : a small, low vehicle with four wheels that children play with • He pulled his stuffed animals around in a little red *wagon*.

3 *US* : **STATION WAGON**

4 *Brit* : a railway car that carries goods

circle the/your wagons *chiefly US, informal* : to gather a group of people together in order to protect them from being attacked — usually used figuratively • Reporters tend to *circle the wagons* [=tend to join together to defend themselves] whenever the media are attacked for bias.

hitch your wagon to *chiefly US, informal* : to rely on (someone or something) for success • The team has *hitched its wagon* to its star pitcher.

on/off the wagon *informal* ✧ A person who is *on the wagon* has stopped drinking alcohol. • He has been *on the wagon* since his child was born. A person who had stopped drinking alcohol but has started again has *fallen off the wagon*. • After a year of sobriety, she *fell off the wagon*.

wagon train *noun*, *pl* ~ **trains** [count] : a long line of wagons traveling together over land; *especially* : a line of wagons traveling west in the U.S. during the 1800s

wag-tail /'wæɡ,teɪl/ *noun*, *pl* -tails [count] : a small European bird that has a long tail which regularly moves up and down

waif /'weɪf/ *noun*, *pl* **waifs** [count] : a young person who is thin and appears to have no home

waifs and strays *Brit* : people or animals that do not have a home

— **waif-ish** /'weɪfɪʃ/ *adj* • The model has a bony, *waifish* look. — **waif-like** /'weɪf,lʰaɪk/ *adj* • a *waiflike* body

¹**wail** /'weɪl/ *verb* **wails**; **wailed**; **wailing**

1 [no *obj*] : to make a loud, long cry of sadness or pain • The child started *wailing* after she stumbled and fell.

2 [no *obj*] : to make a long, high sound • A saxophone *wailed* in the background. • We could hear a siren *wailing*. = We could hear the *wailing* of a siren.

3 [+ *obj*] : to complain in a loud voice • "No! I don't want to go!" he *wailed*. • She *wailed* that the vacation was ruined.

²**wail** *noun*, *pl* **wails** [count]

1 : a long cry of sadness or pain • a *wail* of sadness/despair

2 : a long, high sound • the *wail* of a siren

wain-scot-ing /'weɪn,skɑ:tɪŋ/ *noun* [noncount]

1 *US* : wooden panels that cover the lower part of the walls of a room

2 *Brit, old-fashioned* : **BASEBOARD**

waist /'weɪst/ *noun*, *pl* **waists** [count]

1 : the middle part of your body between the hips and chest or upper back that is usually narrower than the areas above and below it • He has a narrow *waist* and broad shoulders. • He put his arm around her *waist*. • They lay in the sun naked *from the waist up* = They lay in the sun *stripped to the waist* • paralyzed *from the waist down* = paralyzed *below the waist* — see picture at **HUMAN**

2 : the part of a piece of clothing that fits around your waist • These pants have an elastic *waist*. • The waist of this *skirt* is too tight.

— **waist-ed** /'weɪstəd/ *adj* — usually used in combination • high-*waisted* pants [=pants that have a high waist]

waist-band /'weɪst,bænd/ *noun*, *pl* -bands [count] : the strip of fabric at the top of a piece of clothing that fits around your waist • shorts with an elastic *waistband* — see color picture on page C13

waist-coat /'weskət/ *noun*, *pl* -coats [count] *chiefly Brit* : **VEST**

waist-high *adj* : reaching as high as your waist • The corn is *waist-high* at this stage of growth.

waist-line /'weɪst,lʰaɪn/ *noun*, *pl* -lines [count]

1 : the distance around the narrowest part of your waist • The diet claims it will reduce your *waistline* in just four weeks. • I'm watching my *waistline*. [=I'm trying not to eat too much so that I don't gain weight]

2 : the part of a piece of clothing that covers your waist • The dress has a small *waistline* and a full skirt.

¹**wait** /'weɪt/ *verb* **waits**; **wait-ed**; **wait-ing**

1 [no *obj*] : to stay in a place until an expected event happens, until someone arrives, until it is your turn to do something, etc. • I hate *waiting* in long lines. • They *waited* at the train station together. • You should have *waited* a little longer. He showed up right after you left. • I don't have time to *wait around* If he's not here in five minutes, I'm leaving. • She *waited behind* after class to talk to the professor. • I'm sorry to have *kept you waiting* How may I help you? • I *wait-ed and waited* but he never showed up. — often followed by *to* + *verb* • I'm *waiting to use* the bathroom. • The taxi is *waiting to bring* us to the airport. • Doctors are *ready and waiting to give* aid. — often + *for* • She read the newspaper while *waiting for* the bus. • *Wait for* me! I'll go with you. • Take a seat and *wait for* your name to be called. • It can take over an hour to be served at the restaurant, but the food is *worth waiting for*.

2 : to not do something until something else happens [no *obj*] *Wait!* Don't start the engine yet. • We *waited* for the sun to set before starting the fire. — often + *until* • We'll *wait until* you come back to start the movie. [=we will not start the movie until you come back] [+ *obj*] You will have to *wait your turn* [=you cannot do something until it is your turn]

3 [no *obj*] **a** : to remain in a state in which you expect or hope that something will happen soon • I know she was happy when I lost my job. She was *waiting* to see me fail. • I have *waited* for this opportunity for a long time. **b** : to remain in a state in which you expect to learn or find out something soon • You will have to *wait* two weeks for the test results. • She *waited* for his answer. • We are *waiting* to hear back from the doctor. • He'll be a star some day—*just (you) wait* [=I feel sure that he will be a star some day] • I have to *wait and see* whether or not I got the job. • "What are you making?" "*Wait and see.*"

4 [no *obj*] : to be done or dealt with at a later time • The other issues will just have to *wait* until our next meeting. • "Can this *wait* until tomorrow?" "No, it can't *wait*."

5 [no *obj*] : to be in a place ready to be dealt with, taken, etc. — always used as (be) *waiting* • It's time to come inside. Dinner is *waiting*. — often + *for* • There is a package *waiting for* you at home. • She had several messages *waiting for* her at the office.

accident waiting to happen see **ACCIDENT**

can't wait or can hardly wait ✧ If you *can't wait* or *can hardly wait*, you are very excited about doing something or eager for something to happen or begin. • The concert is tomorrow, and we *can hardly wait!* • The children *can hardly wait* for summer. • I *can't wait* to try your apple pie.

hurry up and wait see ¹**HURRY**

wait a minute/moment/second 1 — used to tell someone to stop and wait briefly • *Wait a minute.* I need to tie my shoe. • Please *wait one moment* while I take this call. • If you would just *wait a second*, I could explain what happened. 2 — used to interrupt someone or something because you have noticed, thought of, or remembered something • *Wait a second*—that's not what she said. • *Wait a minute.* I just remembered where I put the keys.

wait at table *Brit, formal* : to serve food or drinks as a waiter or waitress • He *waited at table* for two years.

wait for it *chiefly Brit, informal* — used to emphasize that the following statement is foolish, surprising, funny, etc. • He says he was fired because—*wait for it*—he refused to compromise his principles.

wait in [*phrasal verb*] *Brit* : to stay at home and wait for someone or something to arrive • I can't go out. I've got to *wait in* for a delivery.

wait on also wait upon [*phrasal verb*] 1 **wait on/upon (someone)** **a** : to serve food or drinks as a waiter or waitress to (someone) • The hostess *waits on* tables/people when the restaurant is crowded. **b** : to provide service to (a customer) : to help (a customer) make purchases • He is busy *waiting on* customers at the moment. **c** : to act as a servant to (someone) • He seems to expect his wife to *wait on* him. • She *waited on* her children *hand and foot* [=she acted like a servant to her children; she provided her children with everything they needed or wanted] 2 **wait on/upon (someone or something)** *chiefly US* : to wait for (someone

or something) to arrive or happen • We *waited on* him, but he never came. • The government's decision must *wait on* the committee's report. [=the government's decision will not be made until the committee has issued its report]

wait out [*phrasal verb*] *wait (something) out or wait out (something)* : to stay in one place until the end of (something) • We *waited out* the storm in our hotel room.

wait tables *US* : to serve food or drinks as a waiter or waitress • She has a job *waiting tables*.

wait until/till — used to emphasize that a future event is going to be very surprising, important, etc. • *Wait till* you see their new house. It's just beautiful! • You think you're in trouble now? *Just wait until* your father finds out what you did, young lady! [=your father will be very angry and will punish you when he finds out what you did]

wait up [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to delay going to bed while you wait for someone to arrive • I'll be late; don't *wait up* (for me). **2** *chiefly US, informal* : to stop moving forward so that someone who is behind you can join you • Hey, *wait up* (for me)! I'm going with you.

what are you waiting for? — used to say that someone should do something immediately • *What are we waiting for?* Let's go inside and get something to eat. • If you have so much work to do, then *what are you waiting for?*

²wait *noun, pl waits* [*count*] : a period of time when you must wait — usually singular • There is never a *wait* at that restaurant. • He had a long *wait* in line. • The hostess said there would be a 45-minute *wait* before she could seat us. • The dish takes a long time to prepare, but the results are *worth the wait*.

lie in wait : to hide and wait for the right moment to make an attack • The killer may have been *lying in wait* for him. — sometimes used figuratively • No one knows what *lies in wait* for us in the coming year. [=no one knows what will happen to us in the coming year]

wait-er /'weɪtə/ *noun, pl -ers* [*count*] : a man who serves food or drinks to people in a restaurant — see also DUMB-WAITER, HEADWAITER

wait-ing game /'weɪtɪŋ-/ *noun* [*singular*] : a situation in which you wait to see what happens before you decide what to do • Until they make their decision, we're just playing a *waiting game*.

waiting list *noun, pl ~ lists* [*count*] : a list that contains the names of people who are waiting for something • The country club has a two-year *waiting list* to become a member. [=people have to wait two years before they can become a member] • I'll put your name on the *waiting list*.

waiting room *noun, pl ~ rooms* [*count*] : a room in a hospital, doctor's office, train station, etc., where people can sit down and wait

wait-ress /'weɪtrəs/ *noun, pl -ress-es* [*count*] : a woman who serves food or drinks to people in a restaurant — **waitress** *verb* -resses; -ressed; -ress-ing [*no obj*] • She *waitressed* while going to college.

wait-staff /'weɪtstæf, Brit 'weɪtsta:f/ *noun, pl -staffs* [*count*] *US* : the group of waiters and waitresses who work at a restaurant • a friendly *waitstaff* — often used with a plural verb • The *waitstaff* were very helpful.

waive /'weɪv/ *verb* **waives; waived; waiv-ing** [*+ obj*] : to officially say that you will not use or require something that you are allowed to have or that is usually required • She *waived* her right to a lawyer. • The university *waives* the application fee for low-income students.

waiv-er /'weɪvə/ *noun, pl -ers* [*count*]

1 : the act of choosing not to use or require something that you are allowed to have or that is usually required • a criminal defendant's *waiver* of a jury trial

2 : an official document indicating that someone has given up or waived a right or requirement • The college got a special *waiver* from the town to exceed the building height limit. • He signed an insurance *waiver* before surgery.

on waivers *baseball* — used to describe a process by which a player is removed from a team and is made available to be chosen by other teams • He was placed *on waivers*.

¹wake /'weɪk/ *verb* **wakes; woke** /'wəʊk/ *also waked* /'weɪkt/; **wo-ken** /'wəʊkən/ *or, waked also woke; wak-ing*

1 [*+ obj*] : to cause (a person or animal) to be awake after sleeping • The sound of children shouting *woke* [=awakened, wakened] me. — often + *up* • Don't hesitate to *wake me up* if you need anything at all.

2 [*no obj*] : to stop sleeping : to become awake after sleeping

• She can never remember her dreams upon *waking*. — usually + *up* • I *woke up* late for work this morning. • He had *woken up* with a headache.

wake up [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to become fully awake and energetic • It takes a couple cups of coffee for me to really *wake up* in the morning. **2** *wake up or wake (someone) up* : to become aware or to cause (someone) to become aware of something • He finally started to *wake up* and take care of his health. — often + *to* • Tourists are only now *waking up to* the fact [=are only now starting to realize] that this is a great place to visit. • The study *woke us up to* the importance of regular exercise. [=made us realize the importance of regular exercise]

wake up and smell the coffee also wake up and smell the roses *US, informal* : to realize the truth about your situation : to become aware of what is really happening • These problems are not going to fix themselves. Voters need to *wake up and smell the coffee* and elect someone who will get things done.

²wake *noun, pl wakes* [*count*] : a time before a dead person is buried when people gather to remember the person who has died and often to view the body — compare **³WAKE**

³wake *noun, pl wakes* [*count*] : the track left by a boat moving through the water

in someone's or something's wake — used to say what is left behind by someone or something • The dog climbed out of the pool, leaving a trail of water *in her wake*. • He went from job to job, leaving a trail of broken promises *in his wake*.

in the wake of — used to say what happens after and often as a result of something • Safety regulations were improved *in the wake of* the oil spill.

— compare **²WAKE**

wake-ful /'weɪkfəl/ *adj* : not sleeping or not able to sleep • an unusually *wakeful* baby • *wakeful* [=sleepless] nights — **wake-ful-ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

wak-en /'weɪkən/ *verb* -ens; -ened; -en-ing *formal* : to stop sleeping or to cause (someone) to stop sleeping [*+ obj*] She was *wakened* [=woken, awoken] by the telephone. [*no obj*] He *wakens* at sunrise.

wake-up call *noun, pl ~ calls* [*count*]

1 : a telephone call that a hotel makes to your room to wake you up

2 : something that makes you fully understand a problem, danger, or need • His diagnosis of cancer was a *wake-up call* to all of us about the dangers of smoking.

waking *adj, always used before a noun, of time* : passing while you are awake and able to think and act • I spent every *waking hour/moment* [=every hour/moment when I was awake] thinking about how to fix the problem.

¹walk /'wɔ:k/ *verb* **walks; walked; walk-ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to move with your legs at a speed that is slower than running • Is your grandson *walking* yet? • It's a lovely day—let's *walk* (instead of driving). • He *walks* home from school every day. • It's not far; you can *walk* there in five minutes. • It was a while after the accident before she could *walk* again. • He *walked* away without saying goodbye! • She turned and *walked* away from him. • The driver *walked* away from the accident unharmed. • They *walk* around the neighborhood every morning for exercise. • We *walked* around the city all day seeing the sights. • He *walked* to the store. • He *walked* with her to the library. • We had to *walk* up five flights of stairs to his apartment. • She *walked* up to the counter and ordered a coffee. • You don't have to knock. Just *walk* right in. • Her father *walked* in when they were kissing. = They were kissing when in *walked* her father. • He *walked* into the room. [=he entered the room by walking] • She wasn't paying attention and *walked* into the sign. [=she accidentally hit the sign while walking past it] • We like to go *walking* [=go for walks; take walks] in the morning. — often used figuratively • We can't let these big corporations just *walk* in and take over the town! — see also SLEEPWALK **b** [*+ obj*] : to go with (someone) to a place by walking : to walk with (someone) • She *walks* her children home from school. • The nurse *walked* the patient to the bathroom. • I'll *walk* you to your car. **c** [*+ obj*] : to cause (an animal) to go for a walk with you : to take (an animal) for a walk • He *walks* the dog at least three times a day. • She *walked* the horse to the stable. **d** [*+ obj*] : to cause (something) to move with you while walking • She *walked* her bike up the hill.

2 [*+ obj*] : to move (something) in a way that is like walking • They *walked* the heavy bookcase over to the wall by moving

one end at a time. • He *walked* his fingers along the baby's belly.

3 [+ *obj*] : to pass over, through, or along (something) by walking • We *walked* four miles. • We *walked* the whole trail. • It is no longer safe to *walk* the streets at night. • She slowly *walked* the tightrope. • police officers *walking the beat*

4 *baseball* **a** [no *obj*] *of a batter* : to get to first base by not swinging at four pitches that are balls • She *walked* her first time at bat. **b** [+ *obj*] *of a pitcher* : to cause (a batter) to go to first base by throwing four pitches that are balls • He *walked* the first two batters.

5 [no *obj*] : to be allowed to go free without being punished for a crime • He *walked* on a technicality. • Although there was evidence against her, she *walked free* because of an illegal search by the police.

walk away [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to decide not to do or be involved in something • If you don't like the deal, you can just *walk away*. — often + *from* • He *walked away from* a chance to play professional baseball to join the Peace Corps. • You can't just *walk away from* your responsibilities! • She is not one to *walk away from* a challenge. **2** *walk away with (something) informal* : to win (something) especially in a easy way • She *walked away with* the election. • He *walked away with* first place. • She had the winning ticket and *walked away with* \$50,000!

walk before you (can) run : to learn the basics before trying to do something more advanced • Don't get ahead of yourself. You have to *walk before you can run*.

walk down the aisle see AISLE

walking on air see ¹AIR

walk in on [*phrasal verb*] *walk in on (someone)* : to enter a room and interrupt (someone or something) • He *walked in on* me when I was getting dressed. • She *walked in on* the meeting.

walk into [*phrasal verb*] *walk into (something)* **1** : to become involved in or fooled by (something) because you are not aware of what is really happening • He *walked right into* our trap. • "I can't believe you fell for that old joke!" "Yeah, I guess I *walked right into that one*." **2** *chiefly Brit* : to get (a job) very easily • After college, she *walked straight into* a job.

walk it informal **1** : to go to a place by walking • "Should we take the car?" "It's not that far. Let's just *walk it*." **2** *Brit* : to do something successfully and easily • It's an easy exam. You'll *walk it*.

walk off [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to leave somewhere suddenly especially as a way of showing disapproval • She slapped him in the face and *walked off*. **2** *walk off (something) or walk (something) off* : to get rid of (something) by walking • He *walked off* a cramp in his leg. • That was a pretty big dinner. Let's *walk* some of it *off* in the park. **3** *walk off with (something) informal* **a** : to steal (something) • He *walked off with* \$500,000 worth of jewelry. **b** : to win (something) especially in an easy or impressive way • They *walked off with* the state championship.

walk off the/your job *chiefly US, informal* : to stop working and go on strike • Teachers *walked off the job* today.

walk on eggshells or US walk on eggs informal : to be very careful about what you say or do • She is very touchy, so you have to *walk on eggshells* around her.

walk out [*phrasal verb*] **1** **a** : to leave somewhere suddenly especially as a way of showing disapproval • His racist remark caused many people in the audience to *walk out*. — often + *of* • A whole group of angry parents *walked out of* the meeting. **b** : to go on strike • The workers *walked out* over a wage dispute. **2** *informal* **a** *walk out on (someone)* : to leave (someone) suddenly and unexpectedly : to abandon or desert (someone) • He *walked out on* his wife and children. **b** *walk out on (something)* : to leave before the completion of (something) • The director has reportedly *walked out on* the movie.

walk over [*phrasal verb*] *walk (all) over (someone) informal* : to not consider the wishes or feelings of (someone) : to treat (someone) very badly • Don't let people *walk all over* you! Stand up for yourself! • They thought they could just *walk right over* us.

walk tall : to walk or behave in a way that shows you feel proud and confident • After that winning performance, she can once again *walk tall*.

walk the plank : to be forced to walk along a board sticking out over the side of a ship and fall into the sea • The traitor was forced to *walk the plank*.

walk the streets : to be a prostitute who finds customers by

walking around in the streets • young runaways forced to *walk the streets* — see also STREETWALKER

walk the walk informal : to do the things that you say you will do • Don't talk the talk unless you can *walk the walk*! [=don't say that you can do something unless you can actually do it]

walk through [*phrasal verb*] **1** *walk through (something)* : to do (something) slowly or without much effort • We *walked through* the whole dance routine once, then practiced each section. • It's a shame to see such a talented actress just *walking through* her part. **2** *walk (someone) through (something)* : to help (someone) do (something) by going through its steps slowly • He *walked me through* installing the software. — see also WALK-THROUGH

²walk noun, pl walks

1 [*count*] : an act of walking : an act of going somewhere by walking — usually singular • It is a short/long *walk* to the restaurant. • It is about a five-minute *walk* (from here). • a quarter mile *walk* • She finished her run and slowed to a *walk* to cool down. • It's a nice day to *go for a walk*. • We *took a walk* along the beach. = (*Brit*) We *had a walk* along the beach. • He *took the dog for a walk*. — see also POWER WALK, SPACE WALK

2 [*count*] : a place or path for walking • The cliff *walk* along the ocean is very popular. • Many exotic plants can be found along the *walk*. • (*US*) She raked the yard and swept off the front *walk*. [=walkway] — see picture at HOUSE; see also BOARDWALK, SIDEWALK

3 [*count*] *baseball* : BASE ON BALLS

4 [*count*] : an organized event in which people walk to raise money for a particular cause or group — often + *for* • She is participating in the *walk for* breast cancer research.

5 [*count*] : a particular way of walking — usually singular • His *walk* is just like his father's.

6 [*singular*] : a slow speed • A shortage of raw materials slowed production to a *walk*.

all walks of life or every walk of life — used to refer to people who have many different jobs or positions in society; usually used with *from* • People *from all walks of life* came to the carnival. • Thousands of worshippers *from every walk of life* joined together in prayer. — sometimes used with *of* or *in* in U.S. English • Children *of every walk of life* attend this school. • people *in all walks of life*

cock of the walk see ¹COCK

walk in the park *US, informal* : something that is pleasant or easy • Being a firefighter is no *walk in the park*. • The test should be a *walk in the park* for her.

walk-able /'wɑ:kəbəl/ *adj* : suitable for walking • a very *walkable* city [=a city where you can easily walk to different places] • The beach is within a *walkable* distance. [=is close enough so that you can walk there]

walk-about /'wɑ:kə,baut/ *noun, pl -abouts* [*count*]

1 : an occasion in which an Australian Aborigine goes on a long walking journey on land that is far from towns and cities

2 *Brit* : an occasion in which a well-known person walks through a public place to meet and talk informally to people • Many people gathered to meet the Queen during her *walk-about*.

go walkabout **1** : to go on a walkabout • an Aborigine who has *gone walkabout* **2** *Brit, informal + humorous* — used to say that something or someone cannot be found • My keys have *gone walkabout*. [=gone missing; I can't find my keys]

walk-a-thon /'wɑ:kə,θɑ:n/ *noun, pl -thons* [*count*] *chiefly US* : an organized event in which people walk to raise money for a particular cause or group

walk-er /'wɑ:kə/ *noun, pl -ers* [*count*]

1 **a** : someone who walks especially for exercise • She joined a group of *walkers* in the neighborhood. **b** : someone who walks in a specified way • He is a fast/slow *walker*. [=he walks at a fast/slow pace]

2 : a frame that is designed to support someone (such as a baby or an injured or elderly person) who needs help walking

walk-ies /'wɑ:kiz/ *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit, informal* : the act of taking a dog for a walk • It's time to *go (for) walkies*!

walk-ie-talk-ie /,wɑ:ki'tɑ:ki/ *noun, pl -ies* [*count*] : a small radio for receiving and sending messages

¹walk-in /'wɑ:k,ɪn/ *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : large enough to be walked into • a *walk-in* closet

2 **a** *of a place* : able to be visited without an appointment • a

walk-in clinic • a *walk-in* medical center **b of a person** : visiting a place without an appointment • *walk-in* customers/clients/patients

²**walk-in** *noun, pl -ins* [count] : a person who visits a place without an appointment • We get a lot of *walk-ins* at the clinic.

¹**walk-ing** /'wɑ:kɪŋ/ *noun* [noncount] : the activity of walking for exercise • *Walking* is good exercise. • She *goes walking* every day in the park.

²**walking** *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : suitable for walking • a good pair of *walking* shoes • They were going at a *walking* pace.

2 : capable of being easily walked • The store is *within walking distance*. [=is close enough so that you can walk there]

3 humorous : in human form • He is a *walking* encyclopedia/dictionary. [=he knows so much that he's like a human encyclopedia/dictionary] • She is a *walking* disaster.

4 : done by walking : consisting of walking • a *walking* tour of the Lake District

5 : able to walk • the *walking* wounded [=wounded people who are able to walk]

walking papers *noun* [plural] *US, informal* — used to say that someone has been ordered to leave a place, job, etc. • His boss gave him his *walking papers*. [= (Brit) *marching orders*; his boss fired him]

walking stick *noun, pl ~ sticks* [count]

1 : a stick that is used to help someone to walk

2 US : STICK INSECT

Walk-man /'wɑ:k mən, 'wɑ:k mæn/ *trademark* — used for a small, portable audio player listened to by using headphones or earphones

walk-on /'wɑ:k,ɑ:n/ *noun, pl -ons* [count]

1 : a minor part in a play or movie • a *walk-on* part/role

2 US : a college athlete who tries to become a member of an athletic team without having been asked to join or given a scholarship

walk-out /'wɑ:k,aut/ *noun, pl -outs* [count]

1 : a strike by workers • Hundreds of workers staged a *walk-out* to protest conditions in the factory.

2 : the act of leaving a meeting or organization as a way of showing disapproval — see also *walk out* at ¹WALK

walk-over /'wɑ:k,ouvə/ *noun, pl -overs* [count] : an easy victory • She won the tournament in a *walkover*. [=she won very easily] • a *walkover* victory

walk-through /'wɑ:k,θru:/ *noun, pl -throughs* [count]

1 : an activity in which someone walks through an area, building, etc., in order to inspect it • We did a *walk-through* of the property.

2 a : the act of going slowly through the steps of a process, job, etc., in order to practice doing it or to help someone learn it • They gave us a *walk-through* of the new system. — see also *walk through* at ¹WALK **b** : an explanation or guide that tells you how to do something by explaining each of its parts or steps • video game *walk-throughs*

walk-up /'wɑ:k,ʌp/ *noun, pl -ups* [count] *US* : a tall apartment or office building that does not have an elevator • Their offices are in the same *walk-up*; *also* : an apartment or office in such a building • He rents a fifth-floor *walk-up*. • a *walk-up* apartment

walk-way /'wɑ:k,wei/ *noun, pl -ways* [count] : a passage or path for walking • a brick/wooden/concrete *walkway* • A covered *walkway* connects the two buildings.

¹**wall** /'wɑ:l/ *noun, pl walls* [count]

1 : a structure of brick, stone, etc., that surrounds an area or separates one area from another • A stone *wall* marks off their property. • the Great *Wall* of China • the *walls* of the ancient city — often used figuratively • The wave was like a *wall* of water. • The police formed a human *wall* around him. • His suggestion was met with a *wall* of silence. [=was met with complete silence] • a *wall* of sound • He built an emotional *wall* [=barrier] around himself. — see also CLIMBING WALL, FIRE WALL, RETAINING WALL, SEAWALL

2 : the structure that forms the side of a room or building • She hung posters on the *walls* of her room. • This apartment building has thin *walls*, and you can hear everything your neighbors say. • A lot has happened inside *these four walls*. [=inside this room] • Lower your voice and be careful what you say. The *walls* *have ears*. [=other people could be listening to what you say]

3 : the outer layer of something that is hollow (such as a part of the body or of a plant) • plant cell *walls* • Muscles in the abdominal *wall* help protect organs.

back is to/against the wall see ¹BACK

climbing the walls see ¹CLIMB

drive (someone) up a/the wall informal : to make (someone) irritated, angry, or crazy • Your constant tapping is *driving me up the wall*! • Her voice *drives me up a wall*. [=her voice is very annoying to me]

fly on the wall see ³FLY

go to the wall informal **1 US** : to make every possible effort to achieve something, to win, etc. • He's prepared to *go to the wall* to defend his beliefs. **2 Brit** : to fail because of a lack of money • a company that has *gone to the wall*

hit a/the wall informal : to reach a point at which you find it very difficult or impossible to continue • He worked late every day and took frequent business trips for several years before he finally *hit the wall*. • They seem to have *hit the wall* in terms of new ideas. • Her tennis career *hit a wall* after the injury.

the writing/handwriting is on the wall or see/read the writing/handwriting on the wall — used to say that it is clear that something bad will probably happen soon • I haven't lost my job yet, but *the writing is on the wall*: my company just laid off 50 more people today. • No one told him he was going to be fired, but he could *see the writing on the wall*.

up against a/the wall informal : in a very bad position or situation • The team was *up against a wall* in the first half of the game.

²**wall** *verb* *walls; walled; wall-ing*

wall in [phrasal verb] *wall (something) in or wall in (something)* : to surround (something) with a wall or with something that is like a wall • The school grounds are *walled in*. • They *walled* the garden *in* with rows of thick shrubs.

wall off [phrasal verb] *wall (something) off or wall off (something)* : to separate (something) from the area around it with a wall • The school *walled off* the playground from the parking lot.

wall up [phrasal verb] **1** *wall (something) up or wall up (something)* : to close off (an opening) by filling it with stone, brick, etc. • They *walled up* the doorway of the abandoned house. **2** *wall (someone) up or wall up (someone)* : to keep (someone) as a prisoner in an enclosed space • He was *walled up* in the tower. [=was locked inside the tower]

wal-la-by /'wɑ:ləbi/ *noun, pl wal-la-bies* *also wallaby* [count] : an Australian animal that is like a small kangaroo

wall-board /'wɑ:l,bɔ:d/ *noun* [noncount] *US* : building material that is used for making walls and ceilings and that is made of large sheets of plaster covered with thick paper : DRYWALL

walled /'wɑ:ld/ *adj, always used before a noun* : surrounded by a wall • a *walled* city/garden

wal-let /'wɑ:lət/ *noun, pl -lets*

[count] : a small folding case that holds paper money, credit cards, etc. • She paid the bill and tucked her *wallet* back into her pocket/purse. • He pulled a few bills out of his *wallet*. — often used figuratively • High fuel prices are draining our *wallets*. [=we are spending a lot of money on high fuel prices] • The charity is asking people to open their *wallets* and make a donation. • Consumers are watching their *wallets*. [=are not spending a lot of money]

vote with your wallet see ¹VOTE

wall-eye /'wɑ:l,ai/ *noun, pl -eyes* [count] : a large North American fish that lives in fresh water and that has large eyes — called also *wall-eyed pike* /'wɑ:l,aid-/

wall-flow-er /'wɑ:l,flaʊə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count]

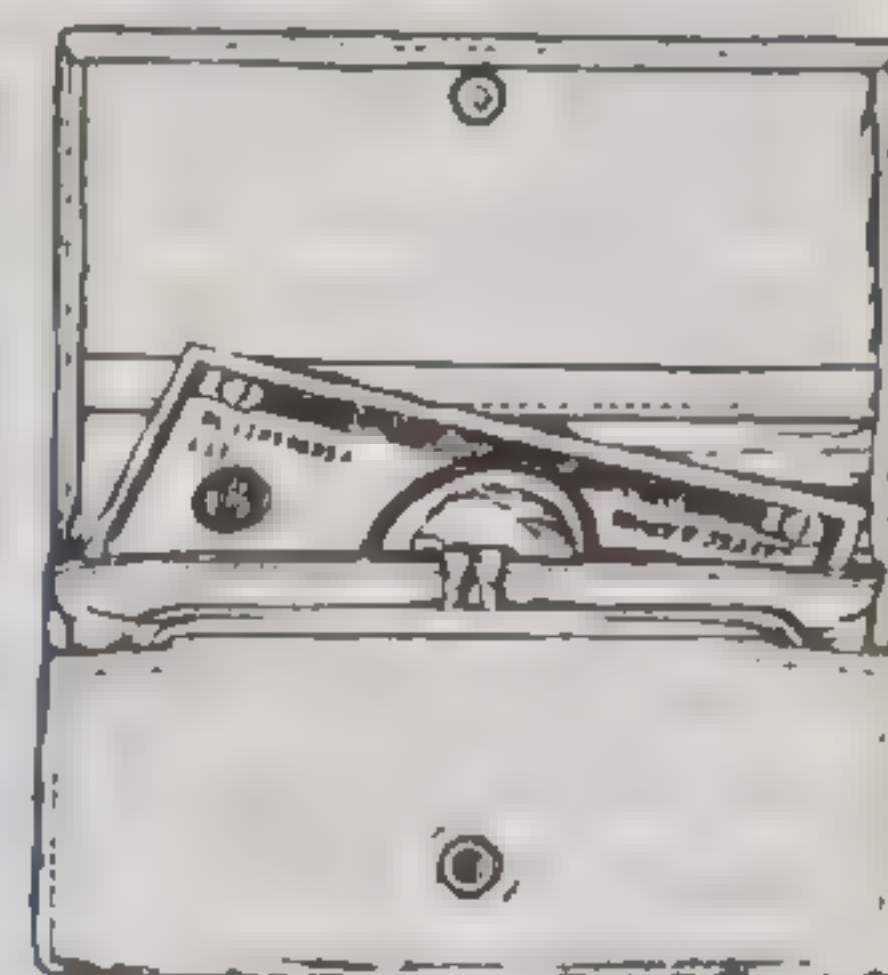
1 informal : a person who is shy or unpopular and who stands or sits apart from other people at a dance or party

2 : a garden plant grown for its bright, pleasant-smelling flowers

wall-mounted *adj* : attached to a wall • a *wall-mounted* television set

wal-lop /'wɑ:lɒp/ *verb* *-lops; -loped; -lop-ing* [+ obj] *informal* : to hit (someone or something) very hard • She *walloped* the ball. • I was so angry I felt like *walloping* him. — often used figuratively • The city got *walloped* by a major blizzard. • He got *walloped* in the finals. [=he was easily defeated in the finals]

— **wallop** *noun* [singular] • She gave the ball a *wallop*. • He



wallet

took a *wallop* to his head. — sometimes used figuratively •

The comedy packs an unexpected emotional *wallop*.

wal·low /'wɑ:lou/ *verb* -lows; -lowed; -low·ing [no obj]

1 : to spend time experiencing or enjoying something without making any effort to change your situation, feelings, etc. — usually + *in* • *wallowing in luxury* • (disapproving) I know she's hurt, but she should try to get on with her life instead of just *wallowing in* her misery/self-pity.

2 : to roll about in deep mud or water • elephants *wallowing in the river* • Buffalo *wallow in mud* to keep away flies.

wall painting *noun*, *pl* ~ -ings [count] : a painting done directly on a wall : MURAL

¹**wall·pa·per** /'wɑ:l,peɪpə/ *noun*, *pl* -pers : thick decorative paper used to cover the walls of a room [noncount] They hung *wallpaper* in the bedroom. = They put up *wallpaper* in the bedroom. • The *wallpaper* began to peel. [count] flowery *wallpapers*

²**wallpaper** *verb* -pers; -pered; -per·ing [+ obj] : to put wallpaper on the walls of (a room) • He *wallpapered* [=papered] the dining room.

Wall Street /'wɑ:l-/ *noun* [noncount] : a street in New York City where the New York Stock Exchange and many major financial businesses are located • Stocks rose on *Wall Street* today. [=stocks rose in the New York Stock Exchange] • traders on *Wall Street* = *Wall Street* traders • After college she got a job on *Wall Street*. — used to refer to the powerful people and businesses of Wall Street that play an important role in the U.S. economy • The company's bankruptcy was extremely troubling to *Wall Street*.

wall-to-wall *adj*

1 : covering the entire floor of a room • *wall-to-wall* carpeting

2 *informal* : filling an entire space or time : occurring or found everywhere or constantly • The beach was *wall-to-wall* (with) sunbathers. [=there were sunbathers lying everywhere on the beach] • Our schedule is *wall-to-wall* weddings from June through August. [=we're going to a lot of weddings from June through August]

wal·ly /'wɑ:li/ *noun*, *pl* -lies [count] *Brit, informal* : a stupid or foolish person

wal·nut /'wɑ:l,nʌt/ *noun*, *pl* -nuts

1 [count] : a type of tree that produces large nuts which can be eaten — called also *walnut tree*

2 [count] : the nut of a walnut tree • The banana bread has *walnuts* in it. • The recipe calls for a cup of chopped *walnuts*. — see picture at NUT

3 [noncount] : the wood of a walnut tree • a table made of *walnut* • *walnut* cabinets

wal·rus /'wɑ:l,rʌs/ *noun*, *pl* walrus or wal·rus·es [count] : a large animal that lives on land and in the sea in northern regions and that has flippers and long tusks



walrus

¹**waltz** /'wɑ:ltz/ *noun*, *pl* waltz·es [count] : a

dance in which a couple moves in a regular series of three steps • They danced a *waltz* together.; also : the music used for this dance • Johann Strauss wrote many beautiful *waltzes*.

²**waltz** *verb* waltzes; waltzed; waltz·ing

1 : to dance a waltz [no obj] He *waltzed* with his daughter at her wedding. [+ obj] He *waltzed* her around the dance floor.

2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [no obj] : to move or walk in a lively and confident manner • He came *waltzing into the room*. • She *waltzed right up to him* and introduced herself.

3 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [no obj] : to succeed at something easily • He *waltzed* [=breezed] through the tournament. • The team *waltzed to victory*. [=the team won easily]

4 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [+ obj] : to force (someone) to go • She *waltzed* the child off to his room.

waltz off with [phrasal verb] **waltz off with (something)** 1 *chiefly US* : to take or get (something, such as a prize) easily • The actress *waltzed off with* several awards. 2 *chiefly Brit* : to take (something) that belongs to someone else • She *waltzed off with* my keys.

wam·pum /'wɑ:mpəm/ *noun* [noncount] : beads, polished shells, etc., used in the past by Native Americans as money and decorations

wan /'wɑ:n/ *adj*

1 : looking sick or pale • a *wan* complexion

2 : having a weak quality : FEEBLE • She gave a *wan* laugh/smile.

— **wan·ly** *adv* • She smiled *wanly*.

wand /'wɑ:nd/ *noun*, *pl* wands [count]

1 : a long, thin stick used by a magician or during magic tricks • a magic *wand*

2 : a long, thin electronic device used to gather or enter information • The cashier used a *wand* to scan the bar code. • a security *wand*

wan·der /'wɑ:ndə/ *verb* -ders; -dered; -der·ing

1 : to move around or go to different places usually without having a particular purpose or direction [no obj] I was just *wandering* around the house. • They *wandered* down the street. • Don't let the children *wander* too far (off). [+ obj] Students were *wandering* the halls. • She *wandered* the streets.

2 [no obj] : to follow a path with many turns • The river *wanders* [=meanders, winds] through the valley.

3 [no obj] : to go away from a path, course, etc. • He *wandered* away from the trail and got lost. — often used figuratively • We are *wandering* from our original plan. • The speech *wandered* off the subject. • The speech was boring and my attention/mind began to *wander*. [=I began to think about other things besides the speech]

— **wander** *noun* [singular] *chiefly Brit* • Let's have/take a *wander*. = Let's go for a *wander*. [=let's take a walk]

— **wan·der·er** /'wɑ:ndərə/ *noun*, *pl* -ers [count] • a solitary *wanderer* • restless *wanderers* — **wandering** *adj* • *wandering* sailors • a *wandering* stream/road ♦ If you have a *wandering eye*, you look at and have sexual thoughts about other people even though you are already in a romantic relationship. • Her husband has a *wandering eye*.

— **wandering** *noun*, *pl* -ings [count] • The travel writer describes his *wanderings* in this book.

wan·der·lust /'wɑ:ndə,lʌst/ *noun* : a strong desire to travel [singular] an insatiable *wanderlust* [noncount] *Wanderlust* has led him to many different parts of the world.

¹**wane** /'weɪn/ *verb* wanes; waned; wan·ing [no obj]

1 *of the moon* : to appear to become thinner or less full • The moon waxes and then *wanes*.

2 : to become smaller or less : to decrease in size, amount, length, or quality • The scandal caused her popularity to *wane*. • Interest in this issue has continued to *wane*. • the *waning* days of summer

²**wane** *noun*

on the wane : becoming smaller or less • Her popularity was *on the wane*. [=she was becoming less popular]

wan·gle /'wæŋgəl/ *verb* wan·gles; wan·gled; wan·gling [+ obj] *informal* : to get (something) by clever methods or by persuading someone • He *wangled* a free ticket to the show. • He managed to *wangle* his way into the party.

wank /'wæŋk/ *verb* wanks; wanked; wank·ing *Brit slang, offensive* : MASTURBATE

— **wank** *noun* [singular]

wank·er /'wæŋkə/ *noun*, *pl* -ers [count] *Brit slang, offensive* : a stupid, foolish, or unpleasant person

wan·na /'wɑ:nə/ — used in writing to represent the sound of the phrase *want to* when it is spoken • I don't *wanna* go. • They just *wanna* have fun. ♦ The pronunciation represented by *wanna* is common in informal speech. The written form should be avoided except when trying to represent such speech.

wan·na·be also **wan·na·bee** /'wɑ:nə,bi:/ *noun*, *pl* -bes also -bees [count] *informal* : a person who tries to look or act like someone else (such as a famous person) : a person who wants to be a particular person or type of person • an actress *wannabe* • a *wannabe* pop star

¹**want** /'wɑ:nt/ *verb* wants; want·ed; want·ing

1 [+ obj] : to desire or wish for (something) • Do you *want* more coffee? • He *wants* a bicycle for his birthday. • I just *wanted* a chance to rest. • She *wanted* more time to finish the test. • Do you *want* anything from the store? • What do you *want* for Christmas? • You can choose whichever color you *want*. — often followed by *to* + *verb* • She *wants to go* to college next year. • I *want to be* alone. • "How old are you?" "Well, if you really *want to know*, I'm 52." • I'm supposed to work late tonight, but I really don't *want to (do it)*. • You can do whatever you *want to (do)*. • You can say what you *want (to say)* about his personality, but there's no denying that he

is efficient. • I was so angry that I *wanted to scream*. [=that I felt like screaming]

2 [+ *obj*] **a** : to need (something) • Our house *wants* painting. • The motor *wants* a tune-up. **b** [+ *obj*] : to be without (something needed) : LACK • Thousands of poor people still *want* food and shelter. • He's not the most talented player, but he doesn't *want* self-confidence. [=he has a lot of self-confidence]

3 *not used in progressive tenses* [+ *obj*] **a** : to wish or demand to see or talk to (someone) • Tell him that the teacher *wants* him. • The police *want* him for questioning. • You're *wanted* on the phone. [=someone wants to speak to you on the phone] **b** : to desire (someone) *to do* something • Your mother *wants* you *to come* home. • I just *want* him *to be* honest with me. • Do you *want* me *to bring back* your book? — sometimes + *for* in informal U.S. English • I *want for* you *to do* this. = What I *want* is *for* you *to do* this. **c** : to seek (someone) in order to make an arrest • The police *want* him for murder: — usually used as (*be*) *wanted* • The suspect *was wanted* for murder. • one of the nation's most *wanted* criminals

4 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] *informal* : to desire to move or be in or out of a place • (*chiefly US*) The cat *wants in/out*. [=the cat wants to go inside/outside] — usually used figuratively • At first she *wanted in on* the deal [=she wanted to be included in the deal], but now she *wants out of* it. [=she does not want to be included] • He desperately *wanted (back) into* the game. [=wanted to get (back) into the game]

5 *not used in progressive tenses* [+ *obj*] *informal* — used to give advice about what someone should do or be; followed by *to* + *verb* • You *want to be* very careful [=you should be very careful] when you pull out of the parking lot. • We might *want to leave* a little early. [=maybe we should leave a little early]

6 *not used in progressive tenses* [+ *obj*] : to feel sexual desire for (someone) • You can tell that he *wants* her.

want for [*phrasal verb*] *want for* (something or someone) : to be without (someone or something) : to lack (someone or something) • She certainly will never *want for* friends. [=she will always have friends] — see also ¹WANT 3b (above)

want no part off/in see ¹PART

want nothing to do with see ¹DO

want rid of see RID

²want *noun, pl wants*

1 *formal* : the state or condition of not having any or enough of something : LACK [*singular*] His attitude shows a *want* of proper respect. [*noncount*] He is suffering from *want* of adequate sleep.

2 [*count*] : something that is desired or needed — usually plural • We can supply all your *wants*. • The company caters to the *wants and needs* of its customers.

3 [*noncount*] : the state or condition of being poor • people who are living in *want*

for (the) want of : because of not having (something) : because (something) does not exist or is not available • *For want of* a better name [=since we don't have a better name to use], let's call it "Operation One." • People are dying *for want of* medical treatment. [=because they are not getting medical treatment] • The project failed *for the want of* adequate funding.

in want of : in the condition of wanting or needing (something) • The house is *in want of* repairs. [=the house needs to be repaired]

not for want of : not because of not having or doing (something) • Her failure to get the information was *not for want of* trying. [=was not because she did not try]

want ad *noun, pl ~ ads* [*count*] *US* : a notice in a newspaper, magazine, etc., that lets people know about something that you want to buy or sell, a job that is available, etc. • She checked the *want ads* to find a new job. — compare ²CLASSIFIED

want-ing /'wɑ:ntɪŋ/ *adj* : not having all that is needed or expected : LACKING • The plan was *wanting*. [=the plan was not good enough] — often + *in* • They were *wanting in* common sense. [=they did not have much common sense] • He was not *wanting in* confidence. [=he was very confident]

wan-ton /'wɑ:ntn/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 : showing no thought or care for the rights, feelings, or safety of others • Vandals were guilty of the *wanton* destruction of the school property. • They were accused of *wanton* cruelty toward animals. • He showed a *wanton* disregard for his friend's feelings.

2 : not limited or controlled • a life of *wanton* luxury

3 *old-fashioned, of a woman* : having sex with many men • a *wanton* woman

— *wan-ton-ly* *adv* • They *wantonly* set fire to the cabin.

— *wan-ton-ness* /'wɑ:ntnəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

wa-pi-ti /'wɑ:pəti/ *noun, pl wapiti or wa-pi-tis* [*count*] : ELK **1**

war /'wɔ:ə/ *noun, pl wars*

1 : a state or period of fighting between countries or groups [*count*] They fought a *war* over the disputed territory. • A *war* broke out when the colonists demanded their independence. • a nuclear *war* [=a war fought using nuclear weapons] [*noncount*] We need to resolve our conflicts without resorting to *war*. • People behave differently during a time of *war*. • *War* could break out soon. [=a war might start soon] • The two countries were *at war* (with each other). • The President decided against *going to war*. [=starting a war with another country] • The taking of American hostages was seen as an *act of war* by the United States. — often used before another noun • *war* correspondents/reporters • the *war* years • his *war* service — see also CIVIL WAR, COLD WAR, HOLY WAR, PRISONER OF WAR, WORLD WAR

2 : a situation in which people or groups compete with or fight against each other [*count*] a class *war* • countries conducting trade *wars* • the budget *wars* in Washington [*noncount*] Local politicians were *at war* [=fighting] with one another over the vacant seat.

3 [*count*] : an organized effort by a government or other large organization to stop or defeat something that is viewed as dangerous or bad • the *war on/against* cancer • the *war on* drugs

all's fair in love and war see ¹FAIR

declare war see DECLARE

this means war — used to show you are offended by what someone has said or done and want to start a fight with that person • He insulted my girlfriend, and as far as I'm concerned, *this means war*. • (*humorous*) Make fun of my car, will you? *This means war!*

war of nerves see NERVE

war of words see ¹WORD

— see also TUG-OF-WAR

war-ble /'wɔ:əbəl/ *verb war-bles; war-bled; war-bling*

1 [*no obj*] *of a bird* : to sing a song that has many different notes • Birds were *warbling* in the trees.

2 [+ *obj*] *humorous* : to sing (something) especially with a high or shaky voice • *warble* a tune • He *warbled* his way through the song.

— *warble* *noun, pl warbles* [*count*] • a canary's *warble*

war-bler /'wɔ:əblə/ *noun, pl -blers* [*count*] : any one of many different kinds of small singing birds that live in America and Europe

war bride *noun, pl ~ brides* [*count*] : a woman who marries a soldier during a war • My grandmother was a *war bride* during World War II.

war chest *noun, pl ~ chests* [*count*]

1 : an amount of money that can be used by a government to pay for a war

2 : an amount of money intended for a specific purpose, action, or campaign • The candidate held fund-raising dinners to build up his *war chest*.

war crime *noun, pl ~ crimes* [*count*] : an act committed during a war that violates international law usually because it is cruel, unfair, etc. • He was found guilty of torture and other *war crimes*.

— *war criminal* *noun, pl ~ -nals* [*count*]

war cry *noun, pl ~ cries* [*count*] •

1 : a shouted word or sound used by fighters in battle to give each other courage or to frighten their enemy

2 : a phrase or saying that is used to make people support an idea, a cause, etc. : BATTLE CRY

¹*ward* /'wɔ:əd/ *noun, pl wards* [*count*]

1 **a** : a section in a hospital for patients needing a particular kind of care • She works in the cancer/maternity/psychiatric *ward*. **b** *US* : a section in a prison • a maximum security *ward*

2 : one of the sections into which a city or town is divided for the purposes of an election • the council representative from *Ward 22*

3 : a person (such as a child) who is protected and cared for by a court or guardian • They were *wards* of the state. • (*US*) The boy was made a *ward of the court*. = (*Brit*) The boy was made a *ward of court*.

ward *verb* **wards**; **ward-ed**; **ward-ing**

ward off [*phrasal verb*] **ward** (something) off or **ward off** (something) : to avoid being hit by (something) • **ward off** a blow — often used figuratively • I tried different remedies to **ward off** a cold.

ward /wɜːd/ *also* **-wards** /wɜːdz/ *adj* *suffix*

1 : that moves, tends, faces, or is directed toward • **windward**

2 : that occurs or is located in the direction of • **leftward** • a **rearward** movement of troops

ward (*chiefly US*) or **-wards** *adv* *suffix* : in or toward a (specified) direction • **upward** • **westward** • **looked skyward**

war dance *noun*, *pl* ~ **dances** [*count*] : a dance performed in the past by Native Americans before a battle or to celebrate victory in battle

war-den /'wɔːdn/ *noun*, *pl* **-dens** [*count*]

1 : a person who is in charge of or takes care of something • the **warden** of the cemetery • a park/forest **warden** • a **game warden** [=a person who makes sure that hunting and fishing laws are obeyed] — see also **TRAFFIC WARDEN**

2 US : an official who is in charge of a prison — called also (*Brit*) **governor**

3 Brit : any one of various officials at a British college

ward-er /'wɔːdə/ *noun*, *pl* **-ers** [*count*] *Brit* : a person who works as a guard in a prison**ward-robe** /'wɔːdrəʊb/ *noun*, *pl* **-robes** [*count*]

1 a : a collection of clothes that a person owns or wears • She has a new summer **wardrobe**. • She has quite an extensive **wardrobe**. [=she has a lot of clothes] **b** : the clothes worn by actors in films, plays, etc.; *also* : the department that keeps and takes care of the clothes for films, plays, etc. • She went to **wardrobe** for her fitting.

2 : a room, closet, or chest where clothes are kept • a walk-in **wardrobe**

ward-room /'wɔːdrʊm/ *noun*, *pl* **-rooms** [*count*] : a room in a military ship where officers sleep and eat**ware** /'weə/ *noun*, *pl* **wares**

1 [*noncount*] : things that are made from a particular material or that are designed for a particular use — usually used in combination • **cookware** • **glassware** • **tableware**

2 wares [*plural*] : things that are being sold by someone • She sold her **wares** at the market.

ware-house /'weə,haʊs/ *noun*, *pl* **-houses** [*count*] : a large building used for storing goods**war-fare** /'wɔːfɛə/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : military fighting in a war • **guerrilla warfare** • **nuclear warfare** — see also **BIOLOGICAL WARFARE**, **CHEMICAL WARFARE**, **psychological warfare** at **PSYCHOLOGICAL**

2 : activity that is done as part of a struggle between competing groups, companies, etc. • **industrial warfare** • **gang warfare** • **economic warfare**

war game *noun*, *pl* ~ **games** [*count*] : a military training activity that is done to prepare for fighting in a war — usually plural**war-head** /'wɔːhɛd/ *noun*, *pl* **-heads** [*count*] : the part of a missile that contains the explosive • **nuclear warheads****war-horse** /'wɔː,hɔːs/ *noun*, *pl* **-horses** [*count*]

1 : a person with a lot of experience in a field; *especially* : a soldier or politician who has served for a long time • the Democratic **warhorse** in the Senate • a general who describes himself as an old **warhorse**

2 : something (such as a work of art or musical composition) that has become very familiar because it has been played, shown, or seen many times • a new production of an old **warhorse**

3 : a large horse used in war

war-like /'wɔː,lɪk/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : liking or tending to fight in wars or to start wars • a **war-like** nation/tribe • **warlike** people

2 : showing or suggesting that a country, group, etc., is ready or eager to fight a war • The government has been criticized for its **warlike** attitude/statements.

3 : of, relating to, or useful in war • **warlike** preparations

war-lock /'wɔː,lɔːk/ *noun*, *pl* **-locks** [*count*] : a man who has magical powers and practices witchcraft : a sorcerer or wizard**war-lord** /'wɔː,lɔːd/ *noun*, *pl* **-lords** [*count*] : a leader of a military group who is not officially recognized and who fights against other leaders, groups, or governments**warm** /'wɔːm/ *adj* **warm-er**; **-est**

1 a : somewhat hot : not cool or cold • Be sure to keep **warm** when you go outside. • **warm** weather • a **warm** fire/radiator •

I'm feeling **warm**. • We sat by the fire to stay **warm**. • It's too **warm** in here. We should open a window. **b** : causing or allowing you to feel warm • This sweater is **warm**. • **warm** clothing • The sunshine was **warm** on my face.

2 : feeling or showing friendship and affection • We were met with a **warm** welcome. • She has a **warm** and friendly nature. • The letter was signed, "**warmest** regards." • She gave us each a long, **warm** hug.

3 : close to finding something, solving a puzzle, etc. • Keep going; you're getting **warm**.

4 a : having a yellow, orange, or red color • a room decorated in **warm** colors/shades **b of sound** : rich and full : not thin or harsh • the **warm** sound of the cello

(as) **warm as toast** *informal* : comfortably or pleasantly warm • The room was cold but I was **as warm as toast** lying under the covers in bed.

— **warm-ness** /'wɔːmnəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] • the **warmness** of a summer's day • She welcomed us with **warmness**.

warm *verb* **warms**; **warmed**; **warm-ing** : to become warm or to make (someone or something) warm [+ *obj*] He **warmed** his hands in front of the fire. • We **warmed** ourselves by the fire. • I'm just going to **warm** (up) the leftovers. [*no obj*] Air rises when it **warms**.

like death warmed over/up see **DEATH**

warm the cockles of your heart see **COCKLE**

warm to [*phrasal verb*] **1 warm to (someone)** : to begin to feel affection for (someone) • She quickly **warmed to** her guests. **2 warm to (something)** : to begin to be interested in or excited about (something) • It took them a while to **warm to** the idea.

warm up [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to become warmer • After being outside too long, I'm slowly **warming up**. • The days are starting to **warm up**. **2 warm up or warm (something) up or warm up (something)** : to do exercises in order to prepare for some activity (such as a sport) • You should always **warm up** for a few minutes before you begin to run. • The singer **warmed up** her voice before the concert. — see also **WARMUP** **3** : to start to do something that you will do in a more intense way later : to become more intense or enthusiastic • He's just **warming up**; he's saving his best material for the end. • The party finally **warmed up** [=heated up] after a couple of hours. **4 warm (someone) up or warm up (someone)** : to entertain (people) before a show begins • The comedian **warmed up** the audience before the concert. **5 a of a machine** : to become ready for use after being started or turned on • I always let the car **warm up** for a couple of minutes in the winter before I start driving. **b warm (a machine) up or warm up (a machine)** : to cause or allow (a machine) to become ready for use after being started or turned on • The engine needs to be **warmed up** for a couple of minutes.

warm your heart : to cause you to have pleasant feelings of happiness • It **warms my heart** to see them together again.

— **warming** *noun* [*noncount*] • The **warming** of air currents affects weather patterns. — see also **GLOBAL WARMING**

warm *noun*

the warm *Brit* : a warm place • come into **the warm**

warm-blood-ed /'wɔːm'blədəd/ *adj*, *biology* : having blood that always remains warm : having a body temperature that does not change when the temperature of the environment changes • **warm-blooded** animals — compare **COLD-BLOODED**

warmed-over /'wɔːmd'əʊvə/ *adj*, *US*

1 *disapproving* : not fresh or new • **warmed-over** ideas

2 : heated again • **warmed-over** stew

warm-er /'wɔːmɜː/ *noun*, *pl* **-ers** [*count*] : something (such as a device or piece of clothing) that is used to keep something warm • a bun **warmer** • hand/leg **warmers**

warm front *noun*, *pl* ~ **fronts** [*count*] : the front edge of a moving mass of warm air • An approaching **warm front** often means that rain is coming. — compare **COLD FRONT**

warm fuz-zies /-'fʌziz/ *noun* [*plural*] *US, informal* : feelings of happiness and affection • The movie gave her the **warm fuzzies**.

warm-heart-ed /'wɔːm'hɑːtəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having or showing kindness, sympathy, and affection • a caring and **warmhearted** person • a **warmhearted** gesture — opposite **COLDHEARTED**

— **warm-heart-ed-ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

warm-ly /'wɔːmli/ *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : in a very friendly way • They greeted us **warmly**. • The new official was **warmly** applauded/received.

2 : in a way that keeps you warm • It's cold out, so be sure to dress *warmly*.

war·mon·ger /'woʊ,mɑŋgə, 'woʊ,mɑ:ŋgə/ *noun, pl -gers* [*count*] *disapproving* : a person who wants a war or tries to make other people want to start or fight a war • the *warmongers* in Congress

– **war·mon·ger·ing** /'woʊ,mɑŋgəɪŋ, 'woʊ,mɑ:ŋgəɪŋ/ *noun [noncount]* • The press accused him of *warmongering*.

– **warmongering** *adj, always used before a noun* • a *warmongering* politician

warm spot *noun [singular] chiefly US* : a strong liking for someone or something • She has a *warm spot* [=soft spot] in her heart for her old classmates.

warmth /'woʊmθ/ *noun [noncount]*

1 : the quality or state of being warm in temperature • I could feel the *warmth* of the fireplace. • She wore a sweater for extra *warmth*. [=so she would feel warmer]

2 : the quality or state of being kind or friendly • She enjoyed the *warmth* of their praise. • They possessed a graciousness and *warmth* that put their guests at ease.

warm-up /'woʊm,ʌp/ *noun, pl -ups chiefly US*

1 [*count*] : an exercise or set of exercises done to prepare for a sport or other activity • She did a five-minute *warmup* before running. — often plural • He injured himself during *warmups*.

2 [*count*] : something done before something else to prepare an audience, a group, etc., for the next thing — usually singular • This presentation is just a *warmup* for the big session tomorrow. • Dinner is just a *warmup*. You should see what we're having for dessert! • He's just the *warmup* act.

3 warmups [*plural*] : comfortable clothing worn by athletes while they are preparing for competition — usually plural • The race was about to start, so the runners removed their *warmups*. — called also *warmup suit*

– see also *warm up* at ²WARM

warn /'woʊn/ *verb warns; warned; warn·ing*

1 : to tell (someone) about possible danger or trouble [+ *obj*] I had been *warned* about the difficulties of the job. • She *warned* me that the stove was still hot. • The company has *warned* (investors) that its profits are likely to be lower in the coming year. • "This won't be easy," he *warned*. • Nobody *warned* me about the dangers. [*no obj*] — usually + *about* or *of* • The book *warns about/of* the dangers of not getting enough exercise.

2 : to tell (someone) to do or not to do something in order to avoid danger or trouble [+ *obj*] I *warned* him to be careful, but he didn't listen to me. • She *warned* us not to go too close to the fire. • We were *warned* against using [=warned not to use] the faulty light switch. [*no obj*] — usually + *against* • She *warns against* making changes too quickly.

warn off [*phrasal verb*] **warn (someone) off or warn (someone) off (something)** : to tell (someone) to go or stay away in order to avoid danger or trouble • The neighbors *warned* us *off* their land.

warn·ing /'woʊnɪŋ/ *noun, pl -ings*

1 : something (such as an action or a statement) that tells someone about possible danger or trouble [*count*] She gave me a *warning* about the difficulties of the job. • There were storm *warnings* [=warnings that a storm was approaching] issued for the area. • She issued a stern *warning* against making changes too quickly. • Let that be a *warning* to you. [*non-count*] We had no *warning* of the dangers that were ahead of us. • Without any *warning* she turned around and ran. • The storm struck *without warning*.

2 [*count*] : a statement that tells a person that bad or wrong behavior will be punished if it happens again • I was stopped for speeding, but the policeman just gave me a *warning*.

fair warning see ¹FAIR

– **warning** *adj, always used before a noun* • A *warning* bell rang before classes started. • The policeman fired a *warning* shot. • Falling prices may be a *warning sign* of a recession. [=may indicate that a recession is coming] • the *warning signs* of cancer

¹**warp** /'woʊp/ *verb warps; warped; warp·ing*

1 : to twist or bend (something) into a different shape [+ *obj*] The wood was *warped* by moisture. [*no obj*] The heat caused the wood to *warp*.

2 [+ *obj*] *disapproving* : to cause (a person's opinions, thoughts, etc.) to be changed in a way that is wrong or unnatural • He held prejudices that *warped* his judgment.

– **warped** *adj [more ~; most ~]* • a *warped* vinyl record • a

vicious criminal with a *warped* mind • They have a very *warped* view of human history.

²**warp** *noun, pl warps*

1 [*count*] : a twist or curve in something that is usually flat or straight • There's a *warp* in the floorboards. — see also TIME WARP

2 [*noncount*] *technical* : the threads that run up and down on a loom or in a woven fabric — compare WEFT

war paint *noun [noncount]*

1 : paint put on the face, the arms, etc., by Native Americans before going into battle • a picture of a chief dressed in a headdress and *war paint*

2 *informal + humorous* : MAKEUP • She piled on the *war paint*.

war·path /'woʊ,pæθ, Brit 'wɔ:,pɑ:θ/ *noun*

on the warpath *informal* : angry and ready to fight with, criticize, or punish someone • The boss is *on the warpath* today because the project is behind schedule. • Her supporters *went on the warpath* in response to her opponent's accusations.

war·plane /'woʊ,pleɪn/ *noun, pl -planes* [*count*] : a military airplane that has guns or missiles

¹**war·rant** /'wɔrənt/ *noun, pl -rants*

1 [*count*] *law* : a document issued by a court that gives the police the power to do something • The police had a *warrant* for his arrest. — see also SEARCH WARRANT

2 [*noncount*] *formal* : a reason for thinking, deciding, or doing something • There was no *warrant* for such behavior.

²**warrant** *verb -rants; -rant·ed; -rant·ing* [+ *obj*]

1 : to require or deserve (something) • This report *warrants* careful study. [=this report should be given careful study] • The idea *warrants* [=merits] further consideration. • The writing was poor, but it hardly *warrants* that kind of insulting criticism. • The punishment he received was not *warranted*.

2 a : to make a legal promise that a statement is true • The seller *warrants* [=more commonly *guarantees*] that the car has no defects. **b** : to give a guarantee or warranty for (a product) — usually used as (be) *warranted* • The tires *are warranted* [=more commonly *guaranteed*] for 40,000 miles.

3 old-fashioned : to say (something) with certainty • I'll *warrant* (you) that they know the answer.

warrant officer *noun, pl ~ -ers* [*count*] : an officer of middle rank in various branches of the armed forces

war·ran·ty /'wɔrənti/ *noun, pl -ties* [*count*] : a written statement that promises the good condition of a product and states that the maker is responsible for repairing or replacing the product usually for a certain period of time after its purchase • The stereo came with a three-year *warranty*.

war·ren /'wɔrən/ *noun, pl -rens* [*count*]

1 : a series of underground tunnels where rabbits live : RABBIT WARREN

2 : a building or place with many connected rooms, passages, etc., where you can get lost very easily • a *warren* of narrow hallways

war·ring /'wɔrɪŋ/ *adj, always used before a noun* : involved in a war, conflict, or disagreement • *warring* nations • *warring* factions/parties

war·rior /'wɔrijə/ *noun, pl -rior* [*count*] : a person who fights in battles and is known for having courage and skill • a proud and brave *warrior* — sometimes used figuratively • She has been a *warrior* against [=she has fought hard against] social injustice. — see also ROAD WARRIOR, WEEKEND WARRIOR

war room *noun, pl ~ rooms* [*count*]

1 : a room where battles are planned that is equipped with maps, computers, etc.

2 : a room where people meet and exchange plans, ideas, information, etc., in an active way • the *war room* of the candidate's campaign headquarters

war·ship /'woʊ,ʃɪp/ *noun, pl -ships* [*count*] : a military ship that has many weapons and is used for fighting in wars

war story *noun, pl ~ -ries* [*count*] : a story of a personal experience that usually involves danger, struggle, or adventure • He liked to tell *war stories* from his life as a sea captain. • We exchanged *war stories* about our time as interns at the same company.

wart /'woʊt/ *noun, pl warts* [*count*]

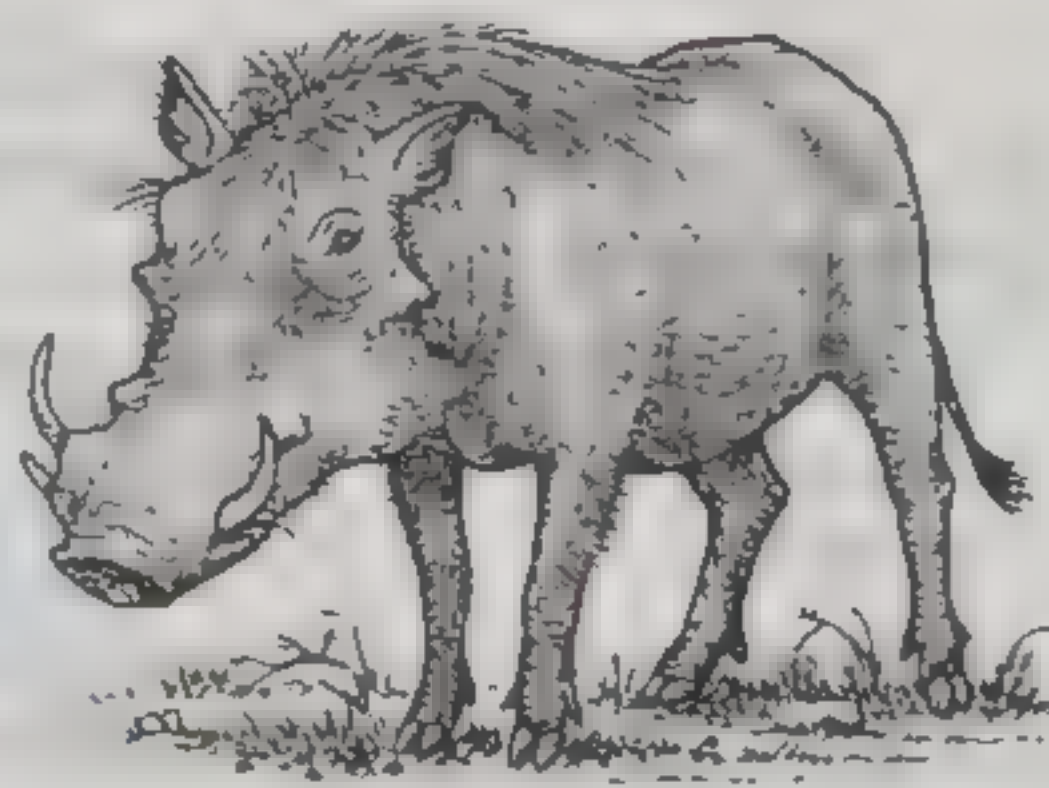
1 : a small, hard lump on the skin caused by a virus

2 : a defect or fault • He was often selfish and thoughtless, but she loved him, *warts and all*. [=she loved him even though he had many faults]

– **warty** /'woʊti/ *adj* • *warty* skin

wart-hog /'woʊt,hɑ:g/ *noun, pl*
-hogs [count] : a type of wild
hog that lives in Africa

war-time /'woʊ,tɑ:m/ *noun*
[noncount] : a time when a coun-
try is involved in a war • Many
goods were rationed during/in
wartime. — often used before
another noun • wartime leaders/
operations — opposite PEACE-
TIME



warthog

war-torn *adj* : very badly harmed or damaged by war : torn
apart by war • a war-torn country

wary /'weri/ *adj* **war-i-er; -est** : not having or showing com-
plete trust in someone or something that could be dangerous
or cause trouble • The store owner kept a wary eye on him. •
Investors are increasingly wary about putting money into
stocks. — often + of • They remain wary of the new plan.
— **war-i-ly** /'werəli/ *adv* • They looked at each other warily.
— **war-i-ness** /'werinəs/ *noun* [noncount]

was *past tense of BE*

wa-sa-bi /'wɑ:səbi, wɑ'sɑ:bi/ *noun* [noncount] : a Japanese
food that has a strong, hot taste and that is often served with
sushi

1 wash /'wɑ:ʃ/ *verb* **wash-es; washed; wash-ing**

1 : to clean (something) with water and usually soap [+ *obj*]
*wash clothes • wash the windows • wash your hair • We have
to wash the dishes. • Did you wash your hands? • Wash*
[=*rinse*] *the vegetables in the sink. [no obj] Tell the kids to
please wash [=to wash their hands, faces, etc.] before eating. •
That shirt washes well. [=that shirt can be washed easily and
without being damaged]*

2 a [+ *obj*] : to carry (something) by the movement of water •
The flooding *washed* sand and silt all over the area. • A sailor
was *washed overboard* [=knocked off the ship and into the
water] during the storm. • A lot of debris was *washed ashore*
[=*brought onto the shore by waves*] during the storm. • The
house is in danger of being *washed out to sea*. [=being car-
ried out to sea by the movement of the water] **b** [no *obj*] : to
be carried by the movement of water • The pollution *washes*
into rivers from nearby factories.

3 [no *obj*] : to move by flowing • Water *washed* over the deck
of the ship. • Waves *washed* up onto the beach.

4 [no *obj*] *informal* : to be believable or acceptable — usually
used in negative statements • That story won't *wash*. [=that
story is not believable] • These claims won't *wash*. [=these are
not believable claims] • Blaming her poor grades on the
teacher just doesn't *wash*. [=is not acceptable]

wash away [phrasal verb] *wash (something) away or wash
away (something)* **1** : to carry (something) away by the
movement of water • The waves at high tide *washed* our
beach towels *away*. • The footprints in the sand were
washed away. • The bridge was *washed away* by flooding
last year. • Heavy rain *washed away* the grass seed. **2** : to
get rid of (something, such as unhappy or unpleasant
thoughts) completely • Take a vacation to *wash away* your
troubles.

wash down [phrasal verb] *wash (something) down or wash
down (something)* **1** : to clean (something) with water •
We'll have to *wash down* the walls before we paint them.
2 : to drink something after eating (food) • The kids
washed down their cookies with milk.

wash off [phrasal verb] **1** *wash (something) off or wash off
(something)* : to clean (something) by using water • *Wash*
the mud off the bikes before you put them away. **2** : to be
able to be removed or cleaned by washing • This makeup
washes off easily. • Does that ink *wash off*?

wash out [phrasal verb] **1** : to be able to be removed or
cleaned by washing • The wine stain won't *wash out*. **2**
wash (something) out or wash out (something) **a** : to
clean the inside of (something, such as a cup or pot) with
water • Just *wash out* the coffee cups before you go. **b** : to
damage or carry away (something) by the force of moving
water • The flooding river *washed out* the bridge. • The
flood *washed out* the road. **c** : to cause (something, such
as a sports event) to be stopped or canceled because of rain
• Rain *washed out* Friday's game. • This weekend's game
was *washed out*. **3** *US, informal* : to fail to successfully
complete a course of training because you do not have the
necessary qualities, skills, or abilities • This program is so
tough, at least 30 percent of the students will *wash out* be-
fore the end of the first year. — see also WASHOUT

wash over [phrasal verb] *wash over (someone or something)*
1 : to affect or be felt by (someone) thoroughly and deeply
• A deep sadness suddenly *washed over* me. • I felt relief
washing over me. • Just close your eyes and let the music
wash over you. **2** : to appear on (a person's face) suddenly
• A look of surprise *washed over* his face.

wash up [phrasal verb] **1** : to be carried by the movement
of water to the shore • Trash *washed up* on the beach after
the storm. **2** *US* : to wash your hands, face, etc. • It will
just take me a minute to *wash up* and then we can go. **3**
chiefly Brit : to wash the dishes after a meal • I cooked din-
ner and he *washed up* afterwards.

wash your hands of : to say or decide that you will no
longer deal with or be responsible for (someone or some-
thing) because you are angry, disgusted, etc. : to refuse to
be involved with (something or someone) anymore • I've
tried to help them and they won't listen to me, so I'm *wash-
ing my hands of* the whole mess.

2 wash *noun, pl washes*

1 [count] : an act of cleaning something by using water and
soap : an act of washing something — usually singular • My
car needs a *wash*. [=needs to be washed] • (*Brit*) I'll have a
quick wash [=(*US*) I'll wash up] before dinner.

2 [singular] : a group of clothes, towels, sheets, etc., that are
being washed or that are going to be washed : LAUNDRY •
My jeans are *in the wash*. • (*Brit*) I'll put a *wash on* [=I'll put
laundry in the washing machine] when I get home.

3 [singular] : the movement of water • We could hear the
wash of the waves against the rocks; *especially* : the waves
made in the water after a moving boat passes by • The *wash*
from speedboats is dangerous for swimmers.

4 [count] : a thin layer of paint • a thin *wash* of white paint
— see also WHITEWASH

5 [count] **a** : a liquid used for cleaning • They used a chem-
ical *wash* to clean the bricks. — see also MOUTHWASH **b** : a
soap or lotion for the skin • an antibacterial skin *wash*

6 [singular] *US, informal* : a situation in which losses and
gains balance each other • You won the first game and I won
the second, so *it's a wash*. [=we are even] • The price is less
online than at the store, but once you add shipping costs, *it's
a wash*. [=the two prices are about the same]

it will all come out in the wash *informal* **1** — used to say
that a problem is not serious and will be solved in the fu-
ture • Don't worry about it. *It will all come out in the wash*.
2 — used to say that the truth will be known in the future •
No one knows who was responsible, but surely *it will all
come out in the wash*.

wash-able /'wɑ:ʃəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : able to be washed without being damaged • a *washable*
silk • Make sure your vacation clothes are *machine wash-
able*. [=able to be washed in a washing machine]

2 : able to be removed by washing • *washable* ink
— **wash-abil-i-ty** /'wɑ:ʃəbəlɪti/ *noun* [noncount]

wash-and-wear *adj, US* : made from a cloth that does
not wrinkle so that clothes can be worn immediately after
being washed • *wash-and-wear* clothing

wash-bag /'wɑ:ʃ,bæg/ *noun, pl -bags* [count] *Brit* : TOILET
BAG

wash-ba-sin /'wɑ:ʃ,beɪsn/ *noun, pl -sins* [count]

1 : a large bowl for water that is used to wash your hands
and face

2 *chiefly Brit* : a bathroom sink

wash-board /'wɑ:ʃ,bɔ:rd/ *noun, pl -boards* [count]

1 : a board with ridges on its surface that was used in the
past for washing clothes by rubbing wet clothes against it ♦
Washboards are also sometimes used as musical instruments
in some types of folk and country music. • The band fea-
tured a banjo and the rhythms of the *washboard*.

2 *US, informal* : a group of strong and well-shaped muscles
that can be seen on a person's stomach — usually used be-
fore another noun • a *washboard* stomach • *washboard* abs

wash-cloth /'wɑ:ʃ,kla:θ/ *noun, pl -cloths* [count] *US* : a
small piece of cloth that you use to wash your face and body
— called also *facecloth*, (*Brit*) *flannel*, (*US*) *washrag*; see pic-
ture at BATHROOM

wash-day /'wɑ:ʃ,deɪ/ *noun, pl -days* [count] *old-fashioned*
: the usual day of the week when clothes are washed

washed-out /'wɑ:ʃt'au/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 *of a color* : not bright : very light or faded • a very pale
washed-out blue • The colors look *washed-out* [=very faded]
in these old photographs.

2 : very tired and without energy : EXHAUSTED • I felt

washed-out after working all night.

washed-up /'wɑːʃtʌp/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : no longer successful, popular, or needed • a *washed-up* actor/singer

wash·er /'wɑːʃə/ *noun*, *pl* -ers [*count*]

1 : a thin, flat ring that is made of metal, plastic, or rubber and that is used to make something (such as a bolt) fit tightly or to prevent rubbing — see picture at CARPENTRY

2 *informal* : WASHING MACHINE • the clothes *washer* • We bought a new *washer* and dryer.

wash·er·wom·an /'wɑːʃə,wʊmən/ *noun*, *pl* -wom·en /-,wɪmən/ [*count*] *old-fashioned* : a woman whose job is washing clothes

wash·ing /'wɑːʃɪŋ/ *noun*, *pl* -ings

1 [*count*] : an act of washing something with water and soap • These shirts will look great even after repeated *washings*.

2 [*noncount*] *Brit* : clothes, towels, sheets, etc., that need to be washed or that are being washed • His mother still does his *washing*. [=laundry] • She forgot to *put the washing out*. [=to hang the laundry outside to dry]

washing machine *noun*, *pl* ~ -chines [*count*] : a machine used for washing clothes

washing powder *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : soap in the form of a powder that you use to wash clothes, towels, sheets, etc.

washing soda *noun* [*noncount*] : a chemical that is added to water to help clean very dirty clothes, towels, sheets, etc.

Washington's Birthday *noun* [*noncount*] : the third Monday in February celebrated in the U.S. as a holiday in honor of the birthday of George Washington ♦ The official name of this holiday is *Washington's Birthday*, but in most states it is now usually called *Presidents' Day* and is considered to be in honor of both George Washington and Abraham Lincoln.

washing-up *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit*

1 : the activity of washing dishes, pans, cups, etc. • She was in the kitchen *doing the washing-up*. [=doing the dishes]

2 : dirty dishes, pans, cups, etc., that need to be washed • a pile of *washing-up*

washing-up liquid *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : DISH DETERGENT

wash·out /'wɑːʃ,aʊt/ *noun*, *pl* -outs [*count*] *informal*

1 : a complete failure • He was a *washout* as a professional golfer. • The team lost so many games that the season was a *total washout*.

2 : an event, game, etc., that is canceled because of rain • Yesterday's game was a *washout*. — see also *wash out* at ¹WASH

wash·rag /'wɑːʃ,ræg/ *noun*, *pl* -rags [*count*] *US* : WASH-CLOTH

wash·room /'wɑːʃ,rʊ:m/ *noun*, *pl* -rooms [*count*] *chiefly US* : a bathroom in a public building

wash·stand /'wɑːʃ,stænd/ *noun*, *pl* -stands [*count*] : a small table used especially in the past in a bedroom to hold the things you need for washing your face and hands

wash·tub /'wɑːʃ,tʌb/ *noun*, *pl* -tubs [*count*] : a tub used especially in the past for washing dirty clothes, towels, sheets, etc.

wasn't /'wɑːznt/ — used as a contraction of *was not* • It *wasn't* important.

wasp /'wɑːsp/ *noun*, *pl* wasps [*count*] : a black-and-yellow flying insect that can sting — see color picture on page C10

WASP /'wɑːsp/ or **Wasp** *noun*, *pl* WASPs or Wasps also WASPS [*count*] *US*, often *disapproving* : an American whose family originally came from northern Europe and especially Britain and who is considered to be part of the most powerful group in society • Most of the members of the club are wealthy WASPs. • The college had been known as a bastion of *WASP* privilege. ♦ *WASP* is an abbreviation of "White Anglo-Saxon Protestant."

wasp·ish /'wɑːspiʃ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : easily annoyed • a *waspish* temper : showing annoyance • *waspish* comments

2 : very thin • her *waspish* waist — *wasp·ish·ly* *adv*

was·sail /'wɑːsəl/ *noun* [*noncount*] *old-fashioned* : a hot alcoholic drink that is traditionally served in a large bowl especially at Christmastime

wast·age /'weɪstɪdʒ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : wasteful use of something valuable : loss of something by using too much of it or using it in a way that is not necessary or effective • The current system results in a large amount of *wastage*. [=a lot of material is wasted because of the current system] • *wast-*

age of valuable resources • avoid food/water *wastage* — see also NATURAL WASTAGE

¹**waste** /'weɪst/ *noun*, *pl* wastes

1 **a** [*noncount*] : loss of something valuable that occurs because too much of it is being used or because it is being used in a way that is not necessary or effective • The current system causes a lot of *waste*. • We need to find ways to reduce/avoid unnecessary *waste*. **b** [*singular*] : an action or use that results in the unnecessary loss of something valuable • These old computers are still useful. It seems like such a *waste* to throw them away. • Any further investment would be a *waste* of valuable resources. • The show was a *waste of money*. [=a bad use of money] • The lecture was a *waste of time*. [=a bad use of time] **c** [*singular*] : a situation in which something valuable is not being used or is being used in a way that is not appropriate or effective • That role was a *waste* of her talents. [=a poor use of her talents]

2 : material that is left over or that is unwanted after something has been made, done, used, etc. [*noncount*] hazardous *waste* • disposal of industrial *waste* • *waste* removal • The city oversees *waste* disposal contracts. • household *waste* [=trash, rubbish] [*count*] hazardous *wastes* • household *wastes* — see also TOXIC WASTE

3 [*noncount*] : the solid and liquid substances that are produced by the body : feces and urine • liquid/solid *waste* • a *waste* treatment plant

4 **wastes** [*plural*] *literary* : a large and empty area of land : WASTELAND • the frozen *wastes* of the tundra

a waste of space *chiefly Brit, informal* : a worthless person or thing • He's a complete *waste of space*.

go to waste : to not be used : to be wasted • It's a shame to see all that food *go to waste*. • They don't let anything *go to waste* when they're camping.

haste makes waste see HASTE

lay waste to see ¹LAY

²**waste** *verb* wastes; wast·ed; wast·ing [+ *obj*]

1 : to use (something valuable) in a way that is not necessary or effective : to use more of (something) than is necessary • Don't *waste* water during the summer drought. • He always *wasted* his money on useless gadgets. • Turn off the lights so we don't *waste* electricity. • I think he's just *wasting* my time. • We can't afford to *waste* so much food.

2 : to use (something or someone) in a way that does not produce a valuable result or effect : to fail to use (something or someone) in an appropriate or effective way • We can't afford to *waste* this opportunity. • She's a good writer but she's *wasting* her talent. [=she's not using her talent to do the things that she should be doing] — often used as (be) *wasted* • My efforts *were wasted*. • He *was wasted* in that job. [=his talents/skills were not being used in the job]

3 *slang* : to kill or murder (someone) • Someone *wasted* him. **waste away** [*phrasal verb*] : to become thinner and weaker because of illness or lack of food • The disease caused her to *waste away*.

waste no time : to do something quickly • We *wasted no time* getting our tickets. [=we hurried to get our tickets]

waste not, want not — used to say that if you never waste things you will always have what you need

waste your breath see BREATH

³**waste** *adj*, always used before a noun : of, relating to, or being material that is left over or unwanted after something has been made, done, used, etc. • *waste* material/water

waste·bas·ket /'weɪst,bæskət, *Brit* 'weɪst,bɑːskət/ *noun*, *pl* -kets [*count*] *US* : a small container for trash • She tossed the wrapper into the *wastebasket*. — called also *wastepaper basket*; see pictures at BATHROOM, OFFICE

waste bin *noun*, *pl* ~ bins [*count*] *Brit* : DUSTBIN

wast·ed /'weɪstəd/ *adj*

1 : not used, spent, etc., in a good, useful, or effective way • a *wasted* effort/opportunity • *wasted* money

2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : very thin because of sickness or lack of food • When she came home from the hospital her body was thin and *wasted*. [=emaciated]

3 [*more* ~; *most* ~] *informal* : very drunk or affected by drugs • I saw him before the party and he was already *wasted*.

waste disposal unit *noun*, *pl* ~ units [*count*] *Brit* : GARBAGE DISPOSAL

waste·ful /'weɪstfəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : using more of something than is needed : causing something valuable to be wasted • a *wasteful* use of natural resources • a careless and *wasteful* person • It was a *wasteful* [=unnecessary] duplication of effort. • We must eliminate *wasteful* expenditures.

— **waste-ful-ly** *adv* — **waste-ful-ness** *noun* [noncount]

waste-land /'weɪst,lænd/ *noun, pl -lands* [count]

1 : land where nothing can grow or be built : land that is not usable • a desert *wasteland*

2 : an ugly and often ruined place or area • The outskirts of the city became a grim industrial *wasteland*.

3 : something that is being compared to a large, empty area of land because it has no real value or interest • That part of the country is a cultural *wasteland*. • the vast *wasteland* of television

waste-pa-per /'weɪst'peɪpə/ *noun* [noncount] : paper that you throw away because it has been used or is not needed

wastepaper basket *noun, pl ~ -kets* [count] : WASTE-BASKET

waste product *noun, pl ~ -ducts* [count] : useless material that is produced when making something else • a hazardous *waste product*

wast-er /'weɪstə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count]

1 : someone or something that uses too much of something or that uses something in a way that is not necessary or effective • He has been called a *waster* of taxpayers' money. • He thinks every meeting is a big time *waster*.

2 *Brit, informal* : a person who never succeeds : a person who is not successful, attractive, etc. • Her boyfriend's a real *waster*. [=loser]

wast-rel /'weɪstrəl/ *noun, pl -rels* [count] *literary* : a person who wastes time, money, etc. • a lazy *wastrel*

¹watch /'wɑ:tʃ/ *verb* **watch-es; watched; watch-ing**

1 **a** : to look at (someone or something) for an amount of time and pay attention to what is happening [+ *obj*] They have a rookie on the team who is fun to *watch*. • I fell asleep *watching* television. • What movie are you *watching*? • "Mom, *watch* me do a cartwheel!" • *Watch* us (do it) to see how it's done. • She sat and *watched* the children play. • He didn't know that he was *being watched* by the police. [=that the police were looking at what he was doing] [*no obj*] "Would you like to play, too?" "No, I'll just *watch*." • Just sit back and *watch*. • Keep *watching* to see what happens next. • "What happens next?" "*Watch and see*." **b** : to give your attention to (a situation, an event, etc.) [+ *obj*] People are *watching* this presidential race very carefully/closely. • Fans anxiously *watched the clock* [=they paid close attention to the time remaining on the clock] as the end of the game approached. [*no obj*] Investors *watched* with delight as stock prices rose.

2 [+ *obj*] : to care for (someone or something) for a period of time in order to make sure that nothing bad or unwanted happens • Will you *watch* my things (for me) until I get back? • He *watched* [=took care of] the baby while I made dinner. • Can you *watch* the dog for us this weekend? • *Watch yourself* [=be careful] up on the roof.

3 [+ *obj*] **a** : to try to control (something) • She tries to *watch* her weight. [=she tries not to gain weight] • The doctor told him that he has to *watch* what he eats. • We've been *watching* how much money we spend. **b** : to be careful about (something) — usually used in commands • *Watch* your step. These stairs are slippery. • *Watch* your head getting into the car. • *Watch* what you're doing! You almost hit me. • *Watch* what you say in front of him. He's very sensitive. • *Watch your language/mouth/tongue*, young lady! [=don't say rude or inappropriate things]

4 *not used in progressive tenses* [+ *obj*] : to make sure that something bad or unwanted does not happen • You will want to *watch* that it doesn't happen again. — often used in commands • *Watch* (that) you don't fall! • *Watch* (that) the wind doesn't blow your papers away.

a watched pot never boils see ¹BOIL

watch for [*phrasal verb*] 1 **watch for** (someone or something) : to look for (someone or something that you expect to see) • Are you *watching for* your parents? They should be here any minute. • She *watches for* her school bus from inside her house. • The nurse *watched for* signs of the disease. • We need to *watch for* any sudden changes in his heartbeat. 2 **watch for** (something) : to look for (something that you want to get or use) • She is always *watching for* sales.

watch it informal — used to tell someone to be careful • *Watch it!* You nearly knocked over that lamp!

watch out [*phrasal verb*] : to be aware of something dangerous • If you don't *watch out* you could fall. • You'd better *watch out*. [=be careful] These stairs are slippery. — often + *for* • *Watch out for* that car! • There are many dangers that you need to *watch out for*.

watch over [*phrasal verb*] **watch over** (someone or something) : to take care of (someone or something) • The shepherds *watched over* their sheep. • She believed that angels were *watching over* her.

watch (someone or something) like a hawk see ¹HAWK

watch someone's back see ¹BACK

watch your back see ¹BACK

watch your p's and q's see ¹P

watch your step see ¹STEP

you watch informal — used to tell someone that you think something will probably happen • She'll change her mind again, *you watch*. [=I think she'll change her mind again]

²watch *noun, pl watches*

1 [count] : a device that shows what time it is and that you wear on your wrist or carry in a pocket • He glanced/looked at his *watch*. • *digital watches* — compare CLOCK; see also STOPWATCH, WRISTWATCH

2 **a** : the act of giving your attention to someone or something especially in order to make sure that nothing bad or unwanted happens [*singular*] — usually + *on* or *over* • He maintains a vigilant *watch over* his property. • The guards *kept a close watch over* the prisoner. [=the guards watched the prisoner closely] [noncount] We are continuing to *keep watch on* [=monitor] developments in the region. **b** [*singular*] : the act of looking for someone or something that you expect to see : the act of regularly checking to see if someone has arrived or if something has appeared or happened • She *kept watch* outside while the others robbed the bank. [=she watched to make sure that no one was coming while the others robbed the bank] • The police told residents to *keep a watch out for* a black van. [=to watch for a black van] • When you're driving in winter you should always *be on the watch for* ice on the roads. • I *am* always *on the watch for* a good bargain. [=always trying to find a good bargain] — see also WHALE WATCH

3 **a** : a period of time when a person or group is responsible for guarding or protecting someone or something [count] — usually singular • Who has first *watch*? • Everything was peaceful during his *watch*. • My *watch* ends in an hour. [noncount] Two guards were *on watch*. = Two guards were *standing watch*. **b** [count] : a group of people who guard or protect someone or something for a period of time — usually singular • A fresh group of soldiers relieved the morning/night *watch*. — see also NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH **c** [count] : the period of time during which someone is in charge of something — usually singular • The business increased its profits on her *watch*. [=the business increased its profits while she was running it] • "Will anything go wrong?" "Not on my *watch*!"

4 [count] *US* : a quick announcement from an official source which tells people that severe weather conditions could occur very soon — usually singular • The National Weather Service has issued a winter storm *watch*. • a tornado *watch*

watch-able /'wɑ:tʃəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : worth watching because of being interesting or entertaining • a minor but highly *watchable* film

watch-band /'wɑ:tʃ,bænd/ *noun, pl -bands* [count] *US* : a strap or band that holds your watch on your wrist • a leather/metal *watchband*

watch-dog /'wɑ:tʃ,dɑ:g/ *noun, pl -dogs* [count]

1 : a dog that is trained to guard a place : GUARD DOG

2 : a person or organization that makes sure that companies, governments, etc., are not doing anything illegal or wrong • consumer/environmental *watchdogs* • *watchdog* groups

watch-er /'wɑ:tʃə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count] : a person who watches someone or something regularly • a TV *watcher* — often used in combination • celebrity-*watchers* — see also BIRD-WATCHER

watch-ful /'wɑ:tʃfəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : always watching the actions of someone or something : paying careful attention to someone or something • We need to be more *watchful* of our children. • The supervisor *keeps a watchful eye* on the workers. [=the supervisor closely watches what the workers are doing] • The hotel is being built *under the watchful eye* of its architect.

— **watch-ful-ly** /'wɑ:tʃfəli/ *adv* • Guards stood *watchfully* at the gate. — **watch-ful-ness** *noun* [noncount]

watching brief *noun* [*singular*] *Brit* : an act of watching the actions of a person or organization to make sure nothing illegal or wrong is being done • They have been *keeping a watching brief* on the company's financial dealings.

watch list *noun, pl ~ lists* [count] : a list of people or things

that are being closely watched because they are likely to do or experience bad things in the future • The government has released its new terrorist *watch list*. • The animals are on a *watch list* of species that could become extinct soon.

watch·mak·er /'wɑ:tʃ,meɪkə/ *noun*, *pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person or company that makes or repairs watches or clocks

— **watch·mak·ing** /'wɑ:tʃ,meɪkɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*]

watch·man /'wɑ:tʃ,mən/ *noun*, *pl* **-men** /-mən/ [*count*] : a person whose job is to watch and guard property at night or when the owners are away • A *watchman* stopped them at the gate. — see also NIGHT WATCHMAN

watch·tow·er /'wɑ:tʃ,təwə/ *noun*, *pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a tower that is used by a person who guards or watches a place

watch·word /'wɑ:tʃ,wɜ:d/ *noun*, *pl* **-words** [*count*] : a word or phrase that expresses a rule that a particular person or group follows : **SLOGAN** • "Safety" is our *watchword*. • The new *watchword* in his campaign is "It's time for change."

¹wa·ter /'wɑ:tə/ *noun*, *pl* **-ters**

1 [*noncount*] : the clear liquid that has no color, taste, or smell, that falls from clouds as rain, that forms streams, lakes, and seas, and that is used for drinking, washing, etc. • Would you like a glass of *water*? • bottled/mineral/spring *water* • There's *water* dripping from the ceiling. • Drink some *water*. • **drinking water** [=water that is safe for drinking] • The house has hot and cold **running water**. [=water carried by pipes inside a building] — see also BATHWATER, FRESHWATER, GROUNDWATER, HOLY WATER, ICE WATER, MINERAL WATER, RAINWATER, ROSE WATER, SALTWATER, SEAWATER, SODA WATER, TAP WATER, TOILET WATER, WHITE WATER

2 [*noncount*] : an area of water (such as a lake, river, or ocean) • deep/shallow *water* • The kids love playing in the *water*. • A stick was floating on/in the *water*. • They like to vacation near the *water*. — see also UNDERWATER

3 waters [*plural*] : a specific area of water; *especially* : an area of seawater • frigid northern *waters* • coastal/shallow *waters* • We are sailing in international *waters*. • They were fishing in Canadian *waters*. — often used figuratively • We are entering into **dangerous waters** [=a difficult or complicated situation] whenever we discuss religion in public. • He began studying the **murky waters** [=confusing details] of copyright law. • The company is moving into **uncharted waters** [=new and unknown areas] with its Internet marketing campaign. — see also HEADWATERS, TERRITORIAL WATERS

4 [*noncount*] : methods of travel that involve boats and ships • They came by *water*. [=by traveling on a boat or ship]

a **fish out of water** see ¹FISH

blood is thicker than *water* see **BLOOD**

come hell or high *water* see **HELL**

dead in the *water* see ¹DEAD

hold water informal : to be possible or believable — usually used in negative statements • Her argument doesn't **hold water**. [=does not make sense] • His theory cannot **hold water**. [=his theory is wrong]

in deep *water* see ¹DEEP

keep your head above *water* see ¹HEAD

like a duck to *water* see ¹DUCK

like *water informal* : in large amounts • He spends money like *water*.

muddy the *waters* see ²MUDDY

pass water medical : to send urine out of the body : **URINATE** • a patient who is finding it difficult to **pass water**

pour/throw cold water on : to say that you do not like (an idea, suggestion, etc.) in a way that stops other people from doing it or from feeling enthusiastic about it • He wanted to buy a new car, but I **poured/threw cold water on** that idea. [=I said he should not buy a new car]

still *waters run deep* see ²STILL

test the *waters/water* see ²TEST

tread *water* see ¹TREAD

troubled *waters* see **TROUBLED**

water breaks (US) or Brit waters break — used to describe what happens when fluid suddenly comes from a pregnant woman's body because her baby will be born soon • Her *water broke* early.

water off a duck's back informal ⇨ If something, such as criticism, advice, etc., is (like) *water off a duck's back*, it has no effect on someone. • He tried to convince her to take the job, but his advice was like *water off a duck's back*. [=she completely ignored his advice]

water under the bridge — used to say that something happened in the past and is no longer important or worth arguing about • We had our differences in the past, but that's

all *water under the bridge* now.

²water verb -ters; -tered; -ter-ing

1 [+ *obj*] : to pour water on (something, such as a plant) • We need to *water* the lawn/garden/plants.

2 [+ *obj*] : to give (an animal) water to drink • They fed and *watered* the horses in the barn.

3 [*no obj*] of the eyes : to produce tears • My eyes were *watering* as I chopped the onions.

4 [*no obj*] of the mouth : to become wet with saliva especially because you want to eat or taste something • Just smelling chocolate makes my mouth *water*. [=makes me want to taste or eat chocolate] — see also MOUTH-WATERING

5 [+ *obj*] *technical* : to supply water to (a region or city) — usually used as (be) *watered* • The vineyards are in a region *watered* by two rivers.

water down [*phrasal verb*] **water (something) down or water down (something)** **1** : to make (an alcoholic drink) weaker by adding water to it • Someone *watered down* [=diluted] the punch. **2** *disapproving* : to make (something) less effective, powerful, etc. • He had to *water down* [=simplify] the lecture for the younger students. • The movie *watered down* the lessons of the book. — see also WATERED-DOWN

water balloon *noun*, *pl* ~ **-loons** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a balloon that is filled with water • The boys were throwing *water balloons* at each other.

water bed *noun*, *pl* ~ **beds** [*count*] : a bed that has a mattress which is made of rubber or plastic and is filled with water

wa·ter·bird /'wɑ:tə,bɜ:d/ *noun*, *pl* **-birds** [*count*] : a bird that swims and lives in or near water • gulls, ducks, and other *waterbirds*

wa·ter·borne /'wɑ:tə,bɔ:n/ *adj* : spread or carried by water • *waterborne* diseases • *waterborne* commerce

water buffalo *noun*, *pl* ~ **buffalo** or ~ **buffaloes** [*count*] : a large animal like a cow with long horns that lives in Asia and is often used to pull plows

water bug *noun*, *pl* ~ **bugs** [*count*] *US* : a small insect that lives in or near water

water butt *noun*, *pl* ~ **butts** [*count*] *Brit* : a large container for collecting or storing a liquid (such as rainwater)

water cannon *noun*, *pl* ~ **cannons** or ~ **cannon** [*count*] : a machine that shoots a large, powerful stream of water and that is used by police to control violent crowds

water chestnut *noun*, *pl* ~ **-nuts** [*count*] : the white root of a plant that grows in water and that is often used in Chinese cooking

water closet *noun*, *pl* ~ **-ets** [*count*] *old-fashioned* : a room containing a toilet — abbr. *WC*

wa·ter·col·or (US) or Brit wa·ter·col·our /'wɑ:tə,kəl:ə/ *noun*, *pl* **-ors**

1 : a type of paint that is mixed with water [*noncount*] a landscape done in *watercolor* [*plural*] He only works in *watercolors*.

2 [*count*] : a picture painted with watercolors • We bought a *watercolor* of the shore. • an exhibition of *watercolors* • a *watercolor* landscape

— **wa·ter·col·or·ist (US) or Brit wa·ter·col·our·ist** /'wɑ:tə,kələrɪst/ *noun*, *pl* **-ists** [*count*]

wa·ter cool·er /'wɑ:tə,kul:ə/ *noun*, *pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] : a machine that cools and stores water for drinking and that is usually found in offices and public buildings — often used to refer to the kind of informal conversations that people have in an office when they are not doing work • We always talked baseball *around the water cooler*. • He tried to avoid the *water cooler gossip* at the office.

wa·ter·course /'wɑ:tə,kɔ:s/ *noun*, *pl* **-cours·es** [*count*] *formal* : a river, stream, etc. • Pesticides are sometimes responsible for contamination of *watercourses*.

wa·ter·craft /'wɑ:tə,kra:ft, *Brit* 'wɑ:tə,kra:ft/ *noun*, *pl* **-crafts** [*count*, *noncount*] : a ship or boat

wa·ter·cress /'wɑ:tə,kres/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a plant that grows in water and that has small, round leaves which are often used in salads

watered-down *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : made to be less ef-



water buffalo

fective, powerful, etc. • a *watered-down* compromise • a *watered-down* version of the original proposal — see also *water down* at ²WATER

wa·ter·fall /'wɑ:tə,fɔ:l/ *noun, pl -falls* [count] : an area in a stream or river where running water falls down from a high place (such as over the side of a cliff) — see color picture on page C7

water fountain *noun, pl ~ -tains* [count]

1 chiefly US : a machine that produces a small stream of water for drinking : DRINKING FOUNTAIN

2 : FOUNTAIN 1 • There is a beautiful *water fountain* in the park near the rose garden.

wa·ter·fowl /'wɑ:tə,fəʊl/ *noun, pl waterfowl* [count] : a duck or similar bird that swims and lives in or near water • The lake is a refuge for migrating *waterfowl*.

wa·ter·front /'wɑ:tə,frʌnt/ *noun, pl -fronts* [count] : the land or the part of a town next to the water of an ocean, lake, etc. — usually singular • They have evening concerts on the *waterfront*. — often used before another noun • *waterfront* development

water glass *noun, pl ~ glasses* [count] : a drinking glass — see picture at PLACE SETTING

water gun *noun, pl ~ guns* [count] US : WATER PISTOL

water hole *noun, pl ~ holes* [count] : a small pool, pond, or lake used by animals for drinking — called also *watering hole*

water ice *noun, pl ~ ices* [count, noncount] Brit : SORBET

watering can *noun, pl ~ cans* [count] : a container that is used to pour water on plants — see picture at GARDENING

watering hole *noun, pl ~ holes* [count]

1 humorous : a place (such as a bar) where people gather to drink • We usually gathered at our favorite *watering hole* [=bar] downtown.

2 : WATER HOLE

water jump *noun, pl ~ jumps* [count] : a pool or stream of water that horses or runners have to jump over in a race (such as a steeplechase)

wa·ter·less /'wɑ:tə,ləs/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : without water • a remote and *waterless* desert

water level *noun, pl ~ -els* [count] : the height of the surface of water in a lake, river, etc. • Check the *water level* of the swimming pool. • We should have good *water levels* through the summer after all this rain.

water lily *noun, pl ~ lilies* [count] : a plant that grows in water with round, floating leaves and large flowers

wa·ter·line /'wɑ:tə,lain/ *noun, pl -lines*

1 the *waterline* : the level that water reaches on the side of a ship • We repaired the hull below the *waterline*.

2 [count] US : a horizontal mark on a wall or other surface that was made by water during a flood and that shows how high the water was

wa·ter·logged /'wɑ:tə,lɔ:gd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : filled or soaked with water • a *waterlogged* boat • *waterlogged* clothes/soil • The ground was completely *waterlogged*.

Wa·ter·loo /,wɑ:tə'lʊ:/ *noun, pl -loos* [count] : a final defeat • his political *Waterloo* • The governor finally met his *Waterloo* [=was defeated] in the last election.

water main *noun, pl ~ mains* [count] : a large underground pipe that carries water • The *water main* burst/broke and flooded the street.

wa·ter·mark /'wɑ:tə,mɑ:k/ *noun, pl -marks* [count] : a design or symbol (such as the maker's name) that is made in a piece of paper and that can be seen when the paper is held up to the light ♦ A watermark is usually found in expensive paper as a sign of quality.

water meadow *noun, pl ~ -ows* [count] Brit : a field near a river that is often flooded with water

wa·ter·mel·on /'wɑ:tə,melən/ *noun, pl -ons* [count, noncount] : a large, round fruit that has hard, green skin, sweet, red, juicy flesh, and black seeds — see color picture on page C5

water meter *noun, pl ~ -ters* [count] : a machine that measures how much water is used in a building

water mill *noun, pl ~ mills* [count] : a mill that uses power produced by moving water to run machinery

water moccasin *noun, pl ~ -sins* [count] : a poisonous snake found in the southern U.S. that lives on land and in water — called also *cottonmouth*, *cottonmouth moccasin*

water park *noun, pl ~ parks* [count] : an amusement park with rides that involve water and areas where people can play or swim in water

water pipe *noun, pl ~ pipes* [count]

1 : a pipe that carries water • The flooding was caused by a broken *water pipe*.

2 : a device used for smoking tobacco, marijuana, etc., in which the smoke passes through water before it is inhaled

water pistol *noun, pl ~ -tols* [count] : a toy pistol that shoots a stream of water — called also (US) *water gun*, (US) *squirt gun*

water polo *noun* [noncount] : a game that is played in water by two teams of swimmers who try to score by throwing a ball into a goal

wa·ter·pow·er /'wɑ:tə,pawə/ *noun* [noncount] : the power that comes from moving water and that is used to run machinery or make electricity • *Waterpower* is a renewable source of energy.

¹**wa·ter·proof** /'wɑ:tə,pru:f/ *adj*

1 : designed to prevent water from entering or passing through • *waterproof* boots • The gaskets create a *waterproof* [=watertight] seal.

2 : designed so that water alone will not remove it • This suntan lotion is *waterproof*. • *waterproof* mascara

²**waterproof** *noun, pl -proofs* [count] chiefly Brit : RAIN-COAT

³**waterproof** *verb* -proofs; -proofed; -proof·ing [+ obj] : to put a substance on (something) in order to make it waterproof • He *waterproofed* the deck by applying sealer to it.

wa·ter·re·pel·lent /,wɑ:tə'rɪ'pelənt/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : WATER-RESISTANT

wa·ter·re·sis·tant /,wɑ:tə'rɪ'zɪstənt/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : designed to not be easily harmed or affected by water or to not allow water to pass through easily • a *water-resistant* watch • *water-resistant* fabric

wa·ter·shed /'wɑ:tə,ʃed/ *noun, pl -sheds* [count]

1 : a time when an important change happens — usually singular • The protests mark a *watershed* [=turning point] in the history of the country. — often used before another noun • a *watershed* moment/year/event

2 a : a line of hills or mountains from which rivers drain : a ridge between two rivers b chiefly US : the area of land that includes a particular river or lake and all the rivers, streams, etc., that flow into it • the Connecticut River *watershed*

3 Brit : the time of day after which television programs not appropriate for children may be broadcast • The show will not air until after the *nine o'clock watershed*.

wa·ter·side /'wɑ:tə,said/ *noun, pl -sides* [count] : the land next to a lake, river, etc. • The trail winds along the *waterside*. — often used before another noun • a *waterside* restaurant • *waterside* plants

wa·ter·ski /'wɑ:tə,ski:/ *verb* -skis; -skied; -ski·ing [no obj] : to ski on the surface of water while holding onto a rope that is attached to a motorboat moving at high speed • They spent the day *water-skiing* at the lake.

— **wa·ter·ski·er** /'wɑ:tə,ski:jə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count] — **wa·ter·ski·ing** /'wɑ:tə,ski:jɪŋ/ *noun* [noncount] • Do you want to go *waterskiing* today?

water ski *noun, pl ~ skis*

[count] : a ski that is used in water-skiing

wa·ter·slide

/'wɑ:tə,slaid/ *noun, pl*

-slides [count] : a large slide usually at an amusement park that has water running down it and that is used for sliding down into a swimming pool

wa·ter·spout

/'wɑ:tə,spaut/ *noun, pl*

-spouts [count]

1 a : a pipe or tube for water to pass through b : an opening through which water flows

2 : an area of rapidly spinning wind in the shape of a funnel or tube that forms between a cloud and the surface of an ocean or lake

water table *noun, pl ~ tables* [count] technical : the highest underground level at which the rocks and soil in a particular area are completely wet with water • Heavy rainfall has caused the *water table* to rise.

wa·ter·tight /,wɑ:tə'taɪt/ *adj*

1 : put or fit together so tightly that water cannot enter or pass through • The doors/compartments are all *watertight*. • a *watertight* seal



water ski

2 : too strong or effective to fail or to be defeated • The evidence against the defendant was *watertight*. • a *watertight* alibi/case

water tower *noun*, *pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] : a tower with a large container for storing water that is usually supplied to buildings located near it

wa·ter·way /'wɑ:tə,wei/ *noun*, *pl* **-ways** [*count*] : a canal, river, etc., that is deep and wide enough for boats and ships to travel through

wa·ter·wheel /'wɑ:tə,wil/ *noun*, *pl* **-wheels** [*count*] : a usually large wooden or metal wheel that is turned by the force of water flowing against it

water wings *noun* [*plural*] : bands of plastic in the shape of a circle that are filled with air and worn on the arms to help people float when they are learning to swim • a pair of *water wings*

wa·ter·works /'wɑ:tə,wɔ:ks/ *noun* [*plural*]

1 : a system for supplying water to a city or town that includes pipes, pumps, etc.

2 *Brit*, *informal* + *humorous* : the parts of the body that produce urine : the urinary system

turn on the waterworks *informal* : to start crying especially in order to get sympathy from someone • kids who *turn on the waterworks* when they want attention

wa·tery /'wɑ:təri/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : containing or filled with water or a similar liquid • The pollen caused her eyes to become *watery*. • *watery* fields

2 *a of a liquid* : very thin and similar to water in appearance, taste, etc. • The soup was *watery* and had no flavor. • *watery* tomato juice **b** : pale and seeming to have little substance • the *watery* light of winter • the *watery* moon

a watery grave *literary* : death by drowning • She was rescued from a *watery grave*.

watt /'wɑ:t/ *noun*, *pl* **watts** [*count*] : a unit for measuring electrical power • a 40-watt light bulb — abbr. *W*

watt·age /'wɑ:tɪdʒ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the amount of electrical power measured in watts that something (such as a light bulb) uses • Use a bulb with low *wattage*.

1 **wa·tle** /'wɑ:təl/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a structure that is made of upright poles and sticks, twigs, etc., that are woven with them and that is used for building fences, walls, etc. • a framework of *wattle* • huts built of *wattle* and *daub* [=wattle covered with clay] — compare **2** **WATTLE**

2 **wattle** *noun*, *pl* **wa·tles** [*count*] : a piece of loose skin that hangs from the neck or head of some birds • a turkey's *wattle* — compare **1** **WATTLE**

1 **wave** /'weɪv/ *verb* **waves**; **waved**; **wav·ing**

1 : to move your hand or something held in your hand usually in a repeated motion in order to signal or greet someone [*no obj*] We *waved* to our friends through the window. • They *waved* at us. • She was *waving* in the direction of the bridge. [*+ obj*] We *waved goodbye* [=waved as a way of saying goodbye] to them and drove away. • The traffic cop *waved* cars *through*. [=waved in a way that told drivers to continue driving through a particular area] • We offered to help but he *waved* us *off*. [=he waved as a way of telling us that he did not want help] • We tried to *wave down* a taxi. [=to get a taxi to stop for us by waving at its driver]

2 [*no obj*] : to float, shake, or move back and forth because of wind • Flags were *waving* in the breeze. • fields of *waving* grain

3 [*+ obj*] : to move (something) back and forth • The magician *waved* his magic wand. • The leader of the parade *waved* a flag. • It was so hot that we were all *waving* our hands in front of our faces to cool off.

4 [*+ obj*] : to hold up and show (something) in a threatening way • The robber *waved* a pistol at the clerk. • a maniac *wav·ing* [=brandishing] a knife

5 *a* [*+ obj*] : to make (someone's hair) curl slightly — usually used as (*be/get*) *waved* • She *got* her hair *waved*. **b** [*no obj*] *of hair* : to curl slightly • His hair *waves* naturally.

wave aside [*phrasal verb*] **wave** (*something*) *aside* or **wave aside** (*something*) : to refuse to consider or respond to (something) • The officer *waved aside* my questions.

wave the flag see **1** **FLAG**

2 **wave** *noun*, *pl* **waves**

1 [*count*] : an area of moving water that is raised above the main surface of an ocean, a lake, etc. • The *waves* crashed onto the rocks. • ocean *waves* • The motion of the *waves* (under the boat) made us seasick. — see also **TIDAL WAVE**

2 [*count*] : something that has the shape or movement of a wave • She has a *wave* in her hair. • amber *waves* of grain •

Waves of warm air washed over us.

3 [*count*] : a usually repeated movement of your hand or of something held in your hand especially as a signal or greeting • He gave me a *wave*. [=he waved to/at me] • We got a *wave* from the Queen. • The rabbit disappeared with a *wave* of the magician's wand. • a kiss and a *wave goodbye* [=a wave that you use to say goodbye]

4 [*count*] **a** : a period of time in which a particular type of activity is being done commonly or repeatedly • The tax cut triggered a *wave* of spending. • a crime *wave* — see also **HEAT WAVE** **b** : a large number of people or things that do something together, are seen together, etc. • a new *wave* of immigrants [=a large number of immigrants arriving at the same time] • The attacks came in *waves*.

5 [*count*] **a** : a strong feeling that affects someone suddenly • A *wave* of fatigue swept over me. [=I suddenly became very tired] • He was overcome by *waves* of anger/fear. **b** : a strong feeling or attitude that is shared by many people at the same time • The new school has triggered a *wave* of optimism [=has made many people feel optimistic] about the public school system. • a *wave* of nostalgia • At the age of 80, she's *riding a/the wave* of renewed interest in her work. [=she's experiencing a time when many people are interested in her work again] • a time when the mayor was still *riding a wave* of public approval

6 [*count*] *technical* : an amount of energy (such as light) that moves in a shape resembling a wave from one point to another point • *light waves* — see also **AIRWAVES**, **RADIO WAVE**, **SHOCK WAVE**, **SHORTWAVE**, **SOUND WAVE**

7 *the wave* : a movement made by a group of people especially in a stadium or arena in which individual people stand up and then sit down again according to where they are sitting in order to create the appearance of an ocean wave • The crowd did *the wave* between innings. — called also (*Brit*) *the Mexican wave*

make waves *informal* : to do something that causes people to notice you • He's *making waves* in the music industry; especially : to cause trouble or annoy people by complaining • I'm tempted to complain, but I don't want to *make waves*.

the wave of the future : an idea, product, way of thinking, etc., that will become very popular in the future • These new video games are *the wave of the future*.

— see also **NEW WAVE**

— **wave-like** /'weɪv,lai/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] • She made a *wavelike* motion with her arms.

wave·length /'weɪv,lɛŋkθ/ *noun*, *pl* **-lengths** [*count*]

1 *technical* : the distance from one wave of energy to another as it is traveling from one point to another point • Light and sound have different *wavelengths*. • radio *wavelengths*

2 *informal* — used especially in the phrases *on the same wavelength* and *on a different wavelength* to say that people share or do not share a way of thinking • We are usually *on the same wavelength*. [=we usually agree, think the same way about things, etc.] • She is *on a different wavelength* than I am.

wave·let /'weɪvlət/ *noun*, *pl* **-lets** [*count*] *technical* : a small wave

wa·ver /'weɪvə/ *verb* **-vers**; **-vered**; **-ver·ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to go back and forth between choices or opinions : to be uncertain about what you think about something or someone • people who are still *wavering* between the two candidates • She *wavered* [=vacillated] over the decision for hours. • They never *wavered* in their support for their leader. • Despite the changes, he did not *waver* from his plan to retire.

2 : to move back and forth in an unsteady way • The kite *wavered* in the wind.

3 : to become unsteady because of weakness, emotion, tiredness, etc. • Her voice *wavered* [=quavered] as she told us about their argument. • During a long lecture my attention will sometimes *waver*. [=wander; I will sometimes think about other things]

— **wa·ver·er** /'weɪvətə/ *noun*, *pl* **-ers** [*count*]

wavy /'weɪvi/ *adj* **wav·i·er**; **-est** : having the curving shape of a wave or of many waves • She has *wavy* blond hair. • *wavy* lines

— **wav·i·ness** /'weɪvɪnəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 **wax** /'wæks/ *noun*, *pl* **wax·es**

1 : a hard substance that becomes soft when it is heated and that is used to make various products (such as candles, crayons, or polish) [*count*] a variety of floor *waxes* [*noncount*] candles made of *wax* • car *wax* [=a substance used to polish cars] — often used before another noun • a *wax* candle/figu-

rine — see also BEESWAX, SEALING WAX

2 [*noncount*] : a natural sticky substance that is produced inside the ear : EARWAX

— **wax-like** /ˈwæks,lark/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] • a *waxlike* substance

2 **wax** *verb* **waxes; waxed; wax-ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to put a thin layer of wax on (something) : to treat or polish (something) by rubbing it with wax • He *waxed* his car today. • The floor has just been *waxed*.

2 : to remove hair from (a part of the body) by putting hot wax on it and then pulling the wax off • She *waxes* her eyebrows/legs.

— compare **3**WAX

3 **wax** *verb* **waxes; waxed; waxing**

1 [*no obj*] of the moon : to appear to become larger or more full • The moon *waxes* and then *wanes*.

2 [*no obj*] : to become larger or more : to increase in amount, size, etc. • Interest in the story seems to *wax* and *wane* depending on other news.

3 *always followed by an adjective* [*linking verb*] : to talk or write about something in a way that shows that you are experiencing a specified mood or feeling • He *waxed* nostalgic about his childhood. [=he talked/wrote nostalgically about his childhood] • *waxing* poetic

— compare **2**WAX

wax bean *noun*, *pl* ~ **beans** [*count*] *US* : a kind of bean whose long yellow seed cases are eaten as a vegetable — see color picture on page C4

wax-en /ˈwæksən/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *literary*

1 : made of or covered in wax • *waxen* figurines

2 : looking like something made of or covered in wax: such as **a** : very smooth and shiny • flowers with *waxen* petals **b** : very pale especially in a way that suggests poor health • a pale, *waxen* face

wax museum *noun*, *pl* ~ **-ums** [*count*] : a museum that has wax statues of famous people — called also (*Brit*) *wax-works*

wax paper or **waxed paper** *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : paper that is covered with wax in order to prevent water and other substances from passing through it and that is often used to wrap food — called also (*Brit*) *greaseproof paper*

wax-works /ˈwæks,wəks/ *noun*, *pl* **waxworks** [*count*] *Brit* : WAX MUSEUM

waxy /ˈwæksi/ *adj* **wax-i-er; -est** : seeming to be made of or covered in wax • The polish left a *waxy* residue. • a plant with *waxy* leaves • a *waxy* surface/substance

1 **way** /wei/ *noun*, *pl* **ways**

1 [*count*] **a** : how someone or something does something : how someone or something behaves, appears, feels, etc. — usually singular • I like the *way* she looks/dresses/laughs. [=I like her appearance/clothing/laugh] • The *way* he treats his mother is so sweet. • The machine isn't working the *way* it's supposed to. • It's strange the *way* things seem to happen for a reason. • Do you really think that *way* about them? [=is that really your opinion of them?] • The steak was rare, just the *way* I like it. • Well, Your Honor, it happened this *way*. [=this is what happened] — often followed by *to* + *verb* • That's no *way to talk* to your father. [=you should not talk to your father using those words, that tone of voice, etc.] • There is no easy *way to say* this: you have to leave. — often used with *in* • She explains things *in a way* that children can understand. • He spoke *in a calm and gentle way*. [=manner] • I said that she was quirky, but I meant it *in a good/positive way*. • *In a strange way*, I've always known I would go back there. • I try to be nice to everyone, and *in the same way*, I expect everyone to be nice to me. • He wants to win *in a big way*. [=very much] • *In a small way* [=to a small extent or degree], the experience helped me understand what it's like to be homeless. • Their story is a tragedy *in more ways than one*. [=it is a tragedy for more than one reason] • *The way things are going* [=if things continue to happen like this], I may lose my job. • We were disappointed when we lost, but that's *the way it/life goes*. [=it is a fact that bad or disappointing things happen sometimes] • Let's stop here. *That/This way* [=by doing that/this] we can look at the map before we get off the highway. **b** : a method or system that can be used to do something • We'll try doing it your *way* first. • Let me explain it this *way*. • What are some (of the) *ways* that you deal with stress? • You can pay for your purchase in one/either of two *ways*: by cash or by credit card. — often followed by *to* + *verb* • I've tried lots of different *ways to lose* weight. • That is a good *way to look* at the problem. • There's no *way to know*

what will happen next. — often + *of* • There's no *way of* knowing what will happen. • He uses art as a *way of* expressing his feelings. • You have a funny *way of* showing that you like her. • This gift is my *way of* saying thank you for all of your help. • She will become famous *one way or another*—if not by modeling, then by acting or singing. • *One way or another*, it's going to happen. • For months, he had been trying to find *a way into/to her heart*. [=to make her love him] • *Where there's a will, there's a way*. [=if you have the desire and determination to do something, you can find a method for accomplishing it]

2 [*count*] : a person's usual habits, actions, qualities, etc. • He has a charming *way* about him. [=he is charming; he behaves/talks in a charming way] • Everyone is special in his or her own *way*. [=everyone has qualities that make him or her special] • It is not his *way* to give up easily. [=he does not give up easily] • She is familiar with Western *ways*. = She is familiar with the *ways* of Westerners. [=the typical habits, behaviors, etc., of people who live in the West] • He is becoming older and more *set in his ways*. [=more unwilling to change his habits, behaviors, opinions, etc.]

3 [*count*] **a** : the series of roads, paths, etc., that can be used to go from one place to another — usually singular • He asked the *way* to the museum. • What's the quickest *way* to the library? • We took the long *way* home. — often used figuratively to refer to a series of actions, procedures, etc., that can be used to achieve something • One *way* around the problem of poor sales is to lower prices. • He is a Broadway actor looking for a *way* into the movie industry. • They *smoothed the way* for an end to the dispute. [=they made an end to the dispute easier and more likely] **b** : a road, path, etc. — usually singular • We could not find the *way* that leads to the waterfall. • The explorers hacked a *way* through the jungle. • They live *across the way* from us. = (*Brit*) They live *over the way* from us. [=they live across from us on the other side of the street] • There is another jewelry store *across the way*. — often used in names • He lives at 121 Village *Way*. **c** : a door, opening, etc., that is used for going into or out of a place • Which door is the *way* in? • The back *way* was blocked. • This door is the only *way* out of the room. — often used figuratively • We're in trouble, and there is no (clear/simple) *way* out. [=no clear/simple way to get out of trouble] • They're trying to *take the easy way out*. [=trying to find an easy way to avoid having to do something difficult] ♠ In British English a door or passage that leads outside or to an exit door is often marked *Way Out*, while in U.S. English it is marked *Exit*.

4 [*count*] **a** : the route along which someone or something is moving or intends to move : the area in front of a moving person or thing • A tree had fallen and was blocking our *way*. • She used a flashlight to light her *way* to the shed. • Please move—you're *in my/the way*. [=you are blocking my path] • Get *out of my/the way*! • He asked the children to stay/keep *out of his way* while he made dinner. • “Can you give me a ride to the library if it's not *out of your way*?” [=if you do not have to take another route in order to do it] “Sure, I can give you a ride. The library is *on my/the way* home.” [=I pass the library when I take my usual route home] • I go past it *on my way* home. — see also IN THE WAY, ON THE WAY, OUT OF THE WAY (below) **b** — used with *her, his, their, its, your, and our* to describe someone or something that is moving forward, going somewhere, etc. • Paramedics pushed *their way* through the crowd. • The snail slowly inched *its way* toward the water. • The river winds/snakes *its way* through the valley. • He tried to *buy his way* into the prestigious college. [=he tried to use money to get himself accepted as a student at the college] • She managed to *talk her way* past the guard. [=she was able to convince the guard to let her pass]

5 [*count*] **a** : a specified or indicated direction • Face this *way* so I can take your picture. • Try turning the key the other *way*. • Which *way* should we go, left or right? • They went that *way*. • Look both *ways* before crossing the street. • The exit is this *way*, ladies and gentlemen. • She is coming/head- ing back this *way*. [=towards us] • The rabbit ran *this way and that* [=in many different directions], trying not to get caught. **b** — used with *her, his, their, its, your, and our* to say that someone or something is moving toward or coming to a particular person or thing • A storm is heading *our/their way*. [=towards us/them] • A tax rebate may be coming *your way*. [=may be sent to you] • A streak of bad luck had come *his way*. [=he was experiencing some bad luck]

6 [*singular*] : a distance • They live a short *way* down the road. [=a short distance from here on the same road] • He

grew up a long way from here. [=far from here] • He talked **the whole/entire way** home. [=throughout the entire journey home] — often used figuratively • If you want to run for the Senate, we'll support you **every inch/step of the way**. [=throughout the entire process] • He still has **a way to go** [=a long time to wait] before the cast on his foot can be removed. — see also ALL THE WAY (below), WAYS

7 [singular] informal : the area or region where someone lives • The weather has been rainy (out) our way. [=out where we live] • I'll visit when I'm down your way again. • They live out California way. [=in or near California]

8 [count] a : a particular part of something that is being thought about or discussed — used with *in* • The new computer is superior to the other one **in every way**. [=it is completely superior; all parts of it are superior] • **In many ways**, their stories are the same. [=their stories are the same to a great degree; many parts of their stories are the same] • **In some ways** the movie is brilliant, but **in other ways** it is just horrible. • Her statement is true, **in a way**. [=it is true to some extent; it is partly true] • **In no way** am I like my father. [=I am not at all like him; no part of me is like him] **b** : a manner of thinking about or considering something • The punishment was severe, but **in a way** it was appropriate. [=it was appropriate when you think about it from a certain point of view] • I started looking at the problem **in a** different way than I had before. • **To my way of thinking** [=in my opinion], this is the best strategy. = The way I see it, this is the best strategy.

9 [singular] : the situation that exists • People are dying of hunger, and it doesn't have to **be that way**. [=the situation can be changed] • Business is good, and we are doing everything we can to **keep it that way**. • There's nothing we can do to help them. That's just **the way things are**.

10 [count] : one of usually two possible decisions, actions, or results • We thought she would vote against the bill, but surprisingly she voted/went the other way. [=she voted for the bill] • I can't see how the election could have gone any other way. [=how it could have had a different result] • I'm not sure if I will take the bus or train, but **either way** [=whether I take the bus or the train] I will be there tonight. • It's all right with me **either way**. [=both possibilities are acceptable to me] • You can have either lower taxes or better-funded public programs; you can't **have it both ways**. • He **wants it both ways**. • Yes or no? Give me an answer **one way or the other**. • I don't have an opinion **one way or the other**. — see also GO EITHER WAY (below)

11 [count] : one of a specified number of usually equal parts into which something (such as an amount of money) is divided • The money was divided three ways. [=it was divided into three amounts]

all the way **1** : to the full or entire extent : as far as possible • You have to pull the lever **all the way** back. • We were seated **all the way** in the back. **2** : throughout an entire process or period of time • His family was with him **all the way** through his candidacy. • They sang songs **all the way** home. [=throughout the journey home] **3** : to the fullest and most complete extent • I am with you **all the way**. = I support you **all the way**. [=I support every part of what you are doing] **4** : over an entire distance • She ran **all the way** there. • You came **all this way** [=all the way to here] just to see me? — see also GO ALL THE WAY (below), ¹WAY 6 (above)

a long way see ¹LONG

by the way — used in speech to introduce a statement or question that may or may not relate to the current topic of conversation • *By the way*, I really like your shoes. • *By the way*, did you hear what happened today? • When do you leave for college, *by the way*?

by way of **1** : by traveling through (a place) : VIA • She came here from China **by way of** England. **2** : for the purpose of giving, making, or doing (something specified) • She said that many people are finding ways to improve their diets, and she mentioned her own family **by way of** example. [=as an example; in order to give an example] • This vase is slightly discolored. **By way of** comparison [=in order to make a comparison], examine the vase on the left.

change your ways : to improve your behavior, habits, or beliefs • If you want to live a long life, you'd better **change your ways**! • a former racist who has **changed her ways**

clear the way **1** : to make the area through which someone or something is trying to pass open and able to be used • *Clear the way*, please. [=move away from the area I am trying to pass through] • She directed traffic to **clear the**

way for the ambulance. **2** : to allow something to happen or develop • The truce would **clear the way** for further discussions between the two groups.

give way **1** : to break apart and fall down • The step feels like it will **give way** soon. • The roof **gave way** [=collapsed] under heavy snow. **2 formal** : to stop trying to fight or resist something : to agree to do or accept something that you have been resisting or opposing • After several hours of debate, the opposition finally **gave way**. [=gave in] **3** : to be replaced by something specified — often + *to* • Our frustration soon **gave way to** anger. • Much of the state's farmland has **given way to** shopping malls. • time-honored traditions **giving way to** more modern methods **4 Brit** : to allow another car or person to go ahead of you or in front of you — often + *to* • Cars must **give way** [= (US) yield] to pedestrians.

go all the way informal **1 sports** : to win a championship, title, etc. • The team has the talent to **go all the way** this year. **2** : to have sex with someone • Did you **go all the way** (with him/her)?

go either way — used to say that either of two possible results is likely to occur and that neither is more likely than the other • I don't know who's going to win. The game could **go either way**. [=either team could win]

go out of your way : to make a special effort to do something • She frequently **goes out of her way** to help people in need. • I hate to make you **go out of your way**, but yes, I could use your help.

go someone's way **1** : to travel in the same direction as someone • Let me walk with you—I'm **going your way**. **2** : to happen in a way that helps someone • Things haven't been **going our way** lately.

go your own way : to do the things that you want to do rather than doing the things that other people expect you to do • She was the kind of woman who always **went her own way**.

go your separate ways see ¹SEPARATE

harm's way see ¹HARM

have a way of ♦ If someone or something **has a way of** being or doing something, the person or thing often has that characteristic or frequently does that thing. • Remakes **have a way of** being [=remakes are often] worse than the original movies. • She **has a way of** exaggerating [=she often exaggerates] when she tells stories. • Life **has a way of** surprising us now and then.

have a way with : to be able to use (something) or to deal with (something or someone) well • She **has a way with** kids/dogs. [=she is good at dealing with kids/dogs; kids/dogs like her and behave well when they are with her] • He **has a way with** words. [=he is good with words; he uses words in a skillful and effective way]

have/get your (own) way : to get or do what you want to get or do despite the desires, plans, etc., of other people • If I **had my way**, students at the school would all wear uniforms. — often disapproving • He is a spoiled child who always **gets his (own) way**. • All right. **Have it your way**. [=do what you want to do] I'm done arguing with you.

have your way with : to do exactly what you want to do to or with (something or someone); **especially** : to have sex with (someone, and especially someone over whom you have control, influence, etc.) • He has **had his way with** many women.

in any way, shape, or form : under any circumstances or conditions • That behavior is not acceptable **in any way, shape, or form**. [=is not at all acceptable] • That is not **in any way, shape, or form** an acceptable or appropriate topic for class discussion.

in the way or in someone's or something's way : making it more difficult for a person to do something : preventing something from happening • I left because I felt that I was just **in their way**. • We have important issues to deal with, but these petty arguments keep **getting in the way**. • We won't let anything **stand in the way of** progress! — see also ¹WAY 4a (above)

in the way of — used to indicate the type of thing that is being described, thought of, etc. • His parents offered him little **in the way of** emotional support. [=they did not give him much emotional support] • How much money has she received **in the way of** campaign contributions?

in the worst way see ¹WORST

lose your way : to become confused or uncertain about where you are : to become lost • I **lost my way** [=lost my bearings] while hiking and ended up spending the night in

the woods. — often used figuratively • Some say that the political party has *lost its way* and really doesn't know how to connect with voters anymore.

make way : to create a path or open space so that someone or something can use it • Several houses were torn down to *make way* for the shopping center. • *Make way* for the paramedics. [=move aside so that the paramedics can pass through] • *Make way!* I'm coming through!

make your way : to move forward usually by following a path • When his name was called, he *made his way* to the stage. — often used figuratively • After college, she set out to *make her way* in the world as a lawyer.

mend your ways see ¹MEND

no two ways about it — used to say that something is definitely true • *No two ways about it*—that was the best performance she has ever given. [=that was definitely her best performance] • They were rude—(there are) *no two ways about it*.

no way informal **1** — used to say that you will definitely not do something • There is *no way* I'm going to swim with a shark. • “Do you want to try skydiving?” “*No way.*” • No, I'm not doing it. *No way José.* **2 US** — used to show that you are very surprised by something or do not believe that something is true • “He's 40 years old.” “*No way!* I would have guessed he was 25.”

on the way or on someone's or something's way **1** : in a state of development : in progress • More layoffs are said to be *on the way*. [=more layoffs will happen soon] **2** : moving from one place to another place • The package should be *on its way*. • I'm afraid I must be *on my way*. [=I must leave now] • A funny thing happened to me *on my/the way* here. [=while I was traveling here] • You need help? I'm *on my way*. [=I am coming to help you now] • She stopped for gas *on the way* home. [=while she was traveling home] • I have to run a few errands *on my way* home. **3** : changing from one level or condition to another level or condition • House prices are *on their way* up. [=are increasing]

on the way out or on someone's or something's way out **1** : leaving a place or position • The phone rang while I was *on my way out*. [=while I was trying to leave] • Would you mind closing the door *on your way out*? • There are rumors that the superintendent of schools is *on the way out*. [=leaving his/her job] **2** : becoming no longer popular • Bell-bottom pants are, once again, *on their way out*. • He incorrectly predicted that the Internet would be *on its way out* within three years.

out of the way **1** : far from other places that are well-known • They rented a cottage that was quiet and *out of the way*. **2** : done or dealt with completely • She got her homework *out of the way* [=she finished her homework] so that she could watch TV. • Let's get these issues *out of the way* before we start working on any other issues. **3** : unusual or remarkable • There is nothing *out of the way* about the plan. — see also OUT-OF-THE-WAY, ¹WAY 4a (above)

parting of the ways see ¹PARTING

part ways see ²PART

see your way (clear) to : to be willing to (do something) • I'd be very grateful if you could *see your way clear* to lend/lending me a few dollars. [=if you would lend me a few dollars]

the other way around also chiefly Brit the other way round **1** : in the opposite position, direction, or order • You put the fork on the right and the knife on the left. They should be *the other way around*. [=the fork should be on the left and the knife on the right] **2** — used to say that the opposite situation is true • Sometimes I cook and she does the dishes and sometimes it is *the other way around*. [=and sometimes she cooks and I do the dishes] • “I thought he wanted a divorce.” “No, it was *the other way around.*” [=she wanted a divorce]

the way informal **1** — used to say what someone's way of speaking, behaving, etc., seems to suggest • You'd think she was rich, *the way* she spends money! [=she spends money like a rich person] • *The way* he talks, you would think he ran the company. [=he talks as if he were the person who runs the company] **2** — used to say that something happens or is done with the same attitude, at the same pace, etc., as something else • They replace their cars *the way* [=like] other people replace shoes.

the way/ways of the world : how things happen or how people behave • Success comes easier for some people. That's just *the way of the world*. • Because he was young

and inexperienced in *the ways of the world*, people were able to take advantage of him.

way of life **1** : the habits, customs, and beliefs of a particular person or group of people • modern and traditional *ways of life* • Unhampered development is threatening these farmers' *way of life*. [=it could force them to stop farming] **2** : an important activity, job, etc., that affects all parts of someone's life • For me, tennis is not just a sport, it's a *way of life*.

way to go US, informal — used to tell someone that he or she has done something well • Nice job, guys! *Way to go!*

work your way see ¹WORK

— see also MILKY WAY, UNDER WAY, WAYS AND MEANS

²way adv, informal

1 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to a great distance or extent : very far • He is *way* ahead of the other runners. • They live *way* out in the country. • We sat *way* back in the last row. • I missed a week of class and fell *way* behind. • Her political views are *way* to the left/right. [=they are very liberal/conservative]

2 : by a great amount • I ate *way* [=far] too much. • The car is *way* [=much] too expensive.

3 *always followed by an adjective, US* : VERY • Your parents are *way* cool. • We're *way* excited.

way back : from a time in the distant past • The group was popular *way back* in the 1960s. • They are friends *from way back*. [=they have been friends for a long time]

way-far-er /'weɪ,fərə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count] *literary* : a person who travels from place to place usually by walking

way-lay /'weɪ,leɪ/ *verb -lays; -laid* /-,leɪd/; *-lay-ing* [+ *obj*]

1 : to stop (someone who is going somewhere) — usually used as (be) *waylaid* • She was *waylaid* by reporters as she left the courthouse. — sometimes used figuratively • She was *waylaid* by the flu.

2 : to attack (someone or something) by surprise from a hidden place • Gangs sometimes *waylay* travelers on that road. • We were *waylaid* by a group of kids with water balloons.

way-out /'weɪ'au/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *informal* : very strange or unusual • an extremist with some *way-out* [=far-out] ideas

ways /'weɪz/ *noun* [singular] *US, informal* : a distance • We are a long *ways* [=way] from home. [=we are far from home] • We still have a *ways to go*. [=a long way to go] — often used figuratively • We've done a lot of work, but we have a long *ways* [=way] to go. [=we still have a lot of work to do] • The wedding is still a long *ways* off. [=it is still far in the future] • She still has a *ways to go* [=she still has a long time to wait] before graduation.

ways and means *noun* [noncount]

1 *somewhat formal* : the methods and tools used for doing something • *ways and means* of increasing revenue

2 *Ways and Means* : a committee in the U.S. House of Representatives that is in charge of taxes, trade issues, government debt, etc.

way-side /'weɪ,sɑɪd/ *noun, pl -sides* [count] : the land next to a road or path • Flowers grew along the *wayside*. — often used before another noun • a *wayside* inn/restaurant

by the wayside : into a state of no longer being considered, used, etc. • We were going to redo the kitchen this spring, but those plans have *fallen/gone by the wayside*. [=we have dropped/abandoned those plans] • traditions that are *falling by the wayside*

way station *noun, pl ~ -tions* [count] *US* : a place where people can stop for rest, supplies, etc., during a long journey — sometimes used figuratively • using the Senate as a *way station* to the presidency

way-ward /'weɪ,wəd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : tending to behave in ways that are not socially acceptable • parents of a *wayward* teenager

2 : not going or moving in the intended direction • a *wayward* throw • *wayward* rockets

— **way-ward-ly** *adv* — **way-ward-ness** *noun* [noncount]

wa-zoo /wə'zu:/ *noun, pl -zoos* [count] *US slang, humorous* : the part of the body you sit on : BUTTOCKS

out/up the wazoo *US, informal* : in large amounts • We have bills *up the wazoo*. [=we have many bills] • a team with talent *out the wazoo* [=a team with a great amount of talent]

WC *abbr, chiefly Brit* water closet

we /'wi:/ *pronoun*

1 — used to refer to the speaker and another person or group of people as the subject of a verb • *We* had a party at work. • If you are ready, *we* can get started. • *We* would like a

table for two. • What are *we* having for dinner? • *We* are sharing a pizza. What are you having? • Let us know where *we* should meet you. — compare I

2 a — used to refer to the company, business, organization, etc., that the speaker works for or is involved with • *We* will publish the answers in next week's issue. • *We* close for a week in July every year. • *We* are only open until noon today.

b formal — used like *I* by a king or queen • “*We* welcome you,” said the queen to her visitors. — see also *the royal “we”* at ¹ROYAL

3 : people in general • *We* must learn to forgive those who hurt us.

4 : YOU — used in speech when trying to persuade or encourage someone to do or say something • “How are *we* feeling today?” the nurse asked the patient. • Be very quiet, children. *We* don't want to wake Daddy, do *we*? • A little edgy, are *we*?

weak /'wi:k/ *adj* **weak·er; -est** [*also more ~; most ~*]

1 : having little physical power or ability : not strong • He has a *weak* throwing arm. • The illness left her too *weak* to stand up. • The child was born with *weak* lungs. • *weak* eyes/eyesight

2 : having little power or force • The batter hit a *weak* ground ball. • a *weak* punch • *weak* winds • She uttered her reply in a *weak* voice.

3 : likely to break or stop working properly : not able to handle weight, pressure, or strain • The door's hinge is *weak*. • a *weak* rope

4 disapproving a : having little power or influence • He proved to be a *weak* and ineffectual leader. **b** : not able to make good decisions or deal with difficult situations • Some see compromise as a sign of a *weak* character. • In a *weak moment* [=during a brief time when I had bad judgment] I told them my secret.

5 a : lacking enough or the usual amount of an important ingredient • This tea is *weak*. [=it has little tea flavor] • *weak* cocktails [=cocktails that contain less than the usual amount of alcohol] • a *weak* bleach solution [=a mixture of water and a small amount of bleach] **b** : not powerful in action or effect • a *weak* drug • a country with *weak* environmental laws • a *weak* radio signal

6 : not likely to persuade or convince people that something is true, real, correct, etc. • Her arguments in support of the theory were *weak*. • He gave a *weak* excuse for being late. • The prosecution has a *weak* case.

7 : not having enough skill or ability • Many of the students are *weak* in math and science. • The team is *weak* on defense.

8 : failing to produce the result that is wanted : not effective • The pun was a *weak* attempt at humor. • The novel's plot was *weak*. [=it did not make sense, did not seem realistic, etc.]

9 : showing little confidence or enthusiasm • He gave only a *weak* smile.

10 a : having a value that is small or is not increasing : less valuable • The dollar is *weak*. **b** : in a poor financial condition • a *weak* economy • a *weak* housing market [=a situation in which few people are buying houses]

11 : dull or pale • The *weak* winter light shone through the window. • *weak* colors

12 : smaller than the usual size • a man with a *weak* chin

13 grammar : following the normal patterns by which the past tenses of verbs are usually formed : REGULAR • Since “work” is a *weak* verb, its past tense is “worked.”

a *weak stomach* see ¹STOMACH

the *spirit is willing but the flesh is weak* see ¹SPIRIT

the *weak* : weak people • the *weak* and the powerful

weak at/in the knees : so nervous or powerfully affected that it is difficult for you to stand • The announcement made me *weak at the knees*. • She said hello to me and I went *weak in the knees*.

— **weak·ly** *adv* • He smiled *weakly* at me.

synonyms WEAK, FEEBLE, and FRAIL mean lacking strength. WEAK is a general word that can describe either a temporary or permanent lack of strength. • He felt *weak* after his illness. • I'm too *weak* to lift that heavy box by myself. FEEBLE stresses the kind of very great weakness that often makes other people feel pity or sympathy. • *Feeble* with hunger, the dog was found wandering in the streets. FRAIL is usually used to describe a very weak person who is easily injured especially because of illness or age. • a *frail* and sickly child • She became very *frail* in her old age.

weak·en /'wi:kən/ *verb* **-ens; -ened; -en·ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to make (something or someone) weaker, less forceful, less effective, etc. • The disease *weakens* the immune system. • people (whose bodies are) *weakened* by hunger • Some are concerned that the increase in taxes will *weaken* the economy. • The beams had been *weakened* by water damage. • efforts to *weaken* environmental laws • The recent setbacks have not *weakened* our resolve. • These kinds of contradictions *weaken* your argument.

2 [*no obj*] : to become weaker, less forceful, less effective, etc. • The disease causes the immune system to *weaken*. • The housing market is *weakening*. [=fewer people are buying houses]

3 of money : to decrease in value when compared to money from other countries [*no obj*] The dollar has continued to *weaken against* the euro. [+ *obj*] Lower interest rates have *weakened* the dollar. — opposite STRENGTHEN

— **weakening** *noun* [*noncount*] • the *weakening* of environmental laws

weak·ling /'wi:kliŋ/ *noun*, *pl* **-lings** [*count*] *disapproving* : a weak person • a 90-pound *weakling*

weak·mind·ed /'wi:k'maɪndəd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *disapproving* : having or showing a lack of good sense or judgment : FOOLISH • the faulty logic of *weak-minded* individuals • *weak-minded* rhetoric

weak·ness /'wi:knəs/ *noun*, *pl* **-ness·es**

1 [*noncount*] : the quality or state of being weak • muscle *weakness* • The *weakness* of her voice surprised me. • The incident exposed his *weakness* as a leader. • Some see compromise as a sign of *weakness*. • moral *weakness* • the *weakness* of a radio signal/Internet connection • the *weakness* of the dollar/economy • I told them my secret in a *moment of weakness*

2 [*count*] : a quality or feature that prevents someone or something from being effective or useful • The tutor assessed the student's strengths and *weaknesses*. • The basketball team has few *weaknesses*.

3 [*count*] **a** : something that you like so much that you are often unable to resist it • Chocolate is my greatest *weakness*. **b** : a strong feeling of desire for something • He has a *weakness* for desserts.

weak sister *noun*, *pl* **~ -ters** [*count*] *US* : a member of a group that is weak or unsuccessful in comparison to others in the group • The company is no longer a/the *weak sister* among auto producers.

¹**weal** /'wi:l/ *noun* [*noncount*] *old-fashioned* : a state of being happy, healthy, and successful : WELL-BEING • work to improve the public/common *weal* — compare ²WEAL

²**weal** *noun*, *pl* **weals** [*count*] : a usually reddish bump or bruise on the skin : WELT — compare ¹WEAL

wealth /'welθ/ *noun*

1 [*noncount*] **a** : a large amount of money and possessions • a nation/family that has acquired great *wealth* • someone whose sole goal is the accumulation of *wealth* **b** : the value of all the property, possessions, and money that someone or something has • Her personal *wealth* is estimated to be around \$10 billion. • What percentage of the national *wealth* is spent on health care?

2 [*singular*] : a large amount or number • I was impressed by the *wealth* of choices. • Libraries offer a *wealth of* information.

share/spread the wealth : to share your money, goods, etc., with other people • If your garden is overflowing, be a good neighbor and *spread the wealth*. [=give some of what is growing in your garden to neighbors]

wealthy /'welθi/ *adj* **wealth·i·er; -est** : having a lot of money and possessions : RICH • He is a *wealthy* entrepreneur. • the *wealthiest* nations in the world • They live in a *wealthy* [=well-to-do] suburb. • a *wealthy* [=affluent] neighborhood • They were fabulously/very *wealthy*.

the *wealthy* : wealthy people • policies to benefit the *wealthy* [=the rich]

— **wealth·i·ness** /'welθiːnəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

wean /'wi:n/ *verb* **weans; weaned; wean·ing** [+ *obj*] : to start feeding (a child or young animal) food other than its mother's milk • The calves are *weaned* at an early age.

wean from/off [*phrasal verb*] *wean* (someone or something) *from/off* (something) : to make (someone or something) stop doing or using (something) • efforts to *wean* the country *from* its dependence on foreign oil • I'm gradually *weaning* myself *off* cigarettes.

wean on [*phrasal verb*] *wean* (someone) *on* (something) : to have (someone) see, use, or experience (something) often



especially from a young age — usually used as *(be) weaned on* • a generation of kids *weaned on* television [=a generation of kids who have watched television a lot since they were very young] • Although born in the 1970s, the singer says she *was weaned on* the music of the 1940s.

weapon /'wepən/ *noun*, *pl* -ons [count]

1 : something (such as a gun, knife, club, or bomb) that is used for fighting or attacking someone or for defending yourself when someone is attacking you • assault with a deadly *weapon* • a concealed *weapon* • chemical/biological *weapons* [=weapons that use dangerous chemicals, germs, etc.] • *weapons of mass destruction* [=weapons that can destroy entire cities, regions, etc.] • The police never found the *murder weapon*. [=the weapon used to commit murder]

2 : something (such as a skill, idea, or tool) that is used to win a contest or achieve something • The pitcher's slider is his most effective *weapon*. • a new *weapon* in the fight against cancer • The mayor's campaign unleashed its *secret weapon*.

weaponry /'wepənri/ *noun* [noncount] : WEAPONS • The army has developed some new high-tech *weaponry*.

1 wear /'weə/ *verb* wears; wore /'wɔ:/; worn /'wɔ:n/; wear-ing [+ *obj*]

1 a : to use or have (something) as clothing : to have (a shirt, pants, etc.) over part of your body • He was *wearing* blue jeans. • She *wore* a red blouse to work. • White coats are often *worn* by doctors. **b** : to use or have (something) on your body • I don't *wear* glasses. • He doesn't *wear* a watch. • Are you *wearing* perfume? • a badge *worn* by police officers • Were you *wearing* a seat belt? **c** : to grow or arrange (your hair) in a particular way • She *wears* her hair in a ponytail. • I used to *wear* my hair long. • He *wears* [=has] a beard now.

2 : to have or show (something, such as an emotion or facial expression) especially on your face • The teacher was *wearing* a frown/smile. • I guess I *wear my heart on my sleeve*. [=show my emotions in an obvious way]

3 a : to cause (something) to become thinner, weaker, etc., because of continued use over time — used as *(be) worn* • The carpet was badly *worn* in some areas. **b** : to cause (something) to form gradually because of use • He *wore* a hole in his pants. • A path had been *worn* into the grass.

4 somewhat formal : to make (someone) very tired • soldiers *worn* by the strain of war

wear away [phrasal verb] *wear away or wear (something) away or wear away (something)* : to gradually disappear or to cause (something) to gradually disappear or become thinner, smaller, etc., because of use • The paint on the sign had *worn away*. • Even a trickle of water will eventually *wear rock away*. — often used as *(be) worn away* • The table's finish was *worn away*.

wear down [phrasal verb] *wear (someone) down or wear down (someone)* **1** : to make (someone) tired or weak • The pressure at home and at work was *wearing her down*. **2** : to convince (someone) to do what you want by trying again and again • She pleaded until she had *worn her parents down* and they agreed to let her go to the party.

wear many hats see HAT

wear off [phrasal verb] : to gradually decrease, disappear, or stop • The painkillers *wore off* [=stopped having an effect; stopped decreasing or removing pain] after a couple of hours. • The shine on the leather will *wear off* pretty quickly. [=the leather will no longer be shiny after a short time] • After you drive a new car for a while, *the novelty wears off*. [=it is no longer exciting or new]

wear on [phrasal verb] **1 wear on (someone)** : to annoy or bother (someone) • Their constant talking was *wearing on me*. **2** : to continue in a way that seems slow • As their visit *wore on* [=dragged on] she started hinting that it was time to leave. • as the day *wore on*

wear out [phrasal verb] **1 wear (someone) out or wear out (someone)** : to make (someone) tired • All that work in the yard yesterday really *wore me out*. • She was *worn out* [=exhausted] from exercising. **2 wear out or wear (something) out or wear out (something)** : to become thinner, weaker, or no longer useful because of use or to cause (something) to become thinner, weaker, or no longer useful because of use • The tires *wore out* after 60,000 miles. • You'll *wear out* your shoes doing that. — often used as *(be) worn out* • The tape is *worn out*.

wear out your welcome see ⁴WELCOME

wear the pants (US) or Brit wear the trousers : to be the leader : to make decisions for a group of people • She *wears the pants* [=she is in charge] in that family.

wear thin **1** : to become weak or ineffective • I'd been wait-

ing almost an hour, and my patience was *wearing thin*. [=I was losing patience; I was beginning to get annoyed/upset] **2** : to become ineffective or uninteresting because of being too familiar or used too often • The comedy's plot relies on a case of mistaken identity, but the joke *wears thin*. • His charm is beginning to *wear thin*. **3** : to become thin because of use • The rug by the door is *wearing thin* and needs to be replaced.

wear through [phrasal verb] *wear through (something) or wear (something) through* : to use (something) so much that a hole develops in it • I've *worn through* two pairs of work shoes since I started this job.

wear well **1** : to remain in good condition after being used • The floor *wears well* even in high traffic areas. **2 informal + humorous** : to look younger than you are • For 70, she's *wearing well*.

— **wear-er** *noun*, *pl* -ers [count] • Some clothes look good on some *wearers* but not others.

2 wear *noun* [noncount]

1 a : the act of using something as clothing : the act of wearing something • shoes that are perfect for everyday *wear*. **b** : the act of using something • The deck is built to withstand years of *wear*. • I got a lot of *wear* out of these boots.

2 : clothing that is designed for a specified kind of person, occasion, or use • children's *wear* • a new line of evening *wear* • active *wear* — see also FOOTWEAR, MENSWEAR, RAINWEAR, SPORTSWEAR, SWIMWEAR, UNDERWEAR

3 : damage that is caused by use • The carpet is showing signs of *wear*. • You should inspect the tires for *wear*.

wear and tear : damage that happens to something when it is used for a period of time • The apartment showed no damage other than normal *wear and tear*.

worse for wear ♦ Someone or something that is *slightly/somewhat/much (etc.) (the) worse for wear* looks worse after doing or experiencing something. • He came out of basic training only *slightly the worse for wear*. • The kids emerged from the woods looking *none the worse for wear*. [=looking no worse than they had looked before]

wear-able /'werəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : capable of being worn : suitable to wear • *wearable art* • high-fashion clothes that are not really *wearable*

— **wear-abil-i-ty** /,werə'bɪləti/ *noun* [noncount]

wea-ri-some /'wɪrɪsəm/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : causing you to feel bored, annoyed, or impatient : TIRESOME • We had to listen to the usual *wearisome* complaints. • Her stories can get a little *wearisome*.

— **wea-ri-some-ly** *adv* • a *wearisomely* familiar story

1 wea-ry /'wɪri/ *adj* wear-i-er; -est [also more ~; most ~]

1 : lacking strength, energy, or freshness because of a need for rest or sleep : TIRED • I need to rest my *weary* eyes. • The miners were *weary* after a long shift.

2 : bored or annoyed by something because you have seen it, heard it, done it, etc., many times or for a long time • She was *weary* from years of housework. • a *weary* sigh [=a sigh that shows that someone is weary] — often + *of* • I'm *weary of* fighting. Let's try to get along. • a professor who had *grown weary of* academia and wanted to try something different — sometimes used in combination • winter-*weary* travelers — see also WORLD-WEARY

3 literary : causing you to feel tired • the long, *weary* [=tiring] journey home

— **wea-ri-ly** /'wɪrəli/ *adv* • They trudged *wearily* down the trail. • "It's almost over," she said *wearily*. — **wea-ri-ness** /'wɪrɪnəs/ *noun* [noncount] • His *weariness* showed in his face.

2 weary *verb* -ries; -ried; -ry-ing [+ *obj*] *somewhat formal* : to make (someone) very tired • The work *wearies* me sometimes.

weary of [phrasal verb] *weary of (something)* : to become bored by (something) : to stop being interested in (something) • She realized that she had *wearyed of* [=tired of] the city. • He quickly *wearyed of* answering their questions.

— **wearying** *adj* [more ~; most ~] • a *wearying* [=tiring] climb up the mountain — **wea-ry-ing-ly** *adv*

1 wea-sel /'wi:zəl/ *noun*, *pl* weasel or wea-sels [count]

1 : a small animal that has a thin body and brown fur and that eats small birds and other animals

2 informal : a dishonest person who cannot be trusted • He's a lying *weasel*.

2 weasel *verb* weasels; US -seled or Brit -selled; US -sel-ing or Brit -sel-ling

weasel into [phrasal verb] *weasel into (something)* chiefly

US, informal + usually disapproving : to get into (a place or situation) by being dishonest, by persuading someone in a clever way, etc. • She *weaseled* (herself) *into* the position of manager. • He managed to *weasel his way into* the restaurant even though he didn't have a reservation.

weasel out of [phrasal verb] *weasel out of* (something) chiefly US, informal + usually disapproving : to avoid doing (something) by being dishonest, by persuading someone in a clever way, etc. • She *weaseled out of* our agreement. • He *weaseled his way out of* helping me with the yard work.

wea-sel-ly also **wea-sely** /'wi:zəli/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] informal + disapproving : not direct and honest • He's a *weaselly*, conniving thief. • a *weaselly* response

weasel word *noun*, *pl* ~ **words** [count] informal + disapproving : a word used in order to avoid being clear or direct • "Reorganization" is just a *weasel word* that the company is using to say that jobs are being eliminated.



weasel

¹weath-er /'weðə/ *noun*, *pl* -ers

1 : the state of the air and atmosphere at a particular time and place : the temperature and other outside conditions (such as rain, cloudiness, etc.) at a particular time and place [noncount] How's the *weather*? • The *weather* today will be hot and dry. • severe/foul/mild/hot/cold *weather* • a *weather* report/forecast • The picnic will be outside, *weather permitting*. [=if the weather is good enough to allow it] [plural] (Brit) She likes to ride her bike *in all weathers*. [=in any kind of weather] — often used figuratively • They have had their fair share of *stormy weather* [=they have had many problems] in their marriage.

2 [noncount] : bad or stormy weather • The hikers sought protection from the *weather* under an overhang. • It looks like we're in for some *weather* tomorrow.

3 the weather : a report or forecast about the weather • We'll take a look at *the weather* right after this commercial break. • Check *the weather* before you make plans.

keep a weather eye on old-fashioned : to watch (someone or something) very carefully • She *kept a weather eye on* the stock report.

make heavy weather of see ¹HEAVY

under the weather : not feeling well : feeling sick • She's (feeling) a little *under the weather* today, so she won't be joining us.

— see also FAIR-WEATHER

²weather *verb* -ers; -ered; -er-ing

1 [no obj] : to change in color, condition, etc., because of the effects of the sun, wind, rain, etc., over a long period of time • The wood on the porch has *weathered* over the years.

2 [+ obj] : to deal with or experience (something dangerous or unpleasant) without being harmed or damaged too much • They *weathered* a terrible storm while at sea. • They had to *weather* [=get through] some difficult times in the early years of their marriage. • He has *weathered* the criticism well.

— see also *weather the storm* at ¹STORM

— **weath-ered** /'weðəd/ *adj* • the sailor's tanned and *weathered* face • *weathered* cedar — **weathering** *noun* [noncount] • The rocks have been worn down by *weathering*.

weath-er-beat-en /'weðə,bi:tən/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : toughened or colored by the effects of the sun, wind, rain, etc. • their *weather-beaten* faces

2 : worn and damaged by the effects of the sun, wind, rain, etc. • a *weather-beaten* barn

weath-er-board /'weðə,bɔ:d/ *noun*, *pl* -boards [count, noncount] Brit : CLAPBOARD

— **weatherboard** *adj* • a *weatherboard* cottage

weath-er-ize /'weðə,raɪz/ *verb* -iz-es; -ized; -iz-ing [+ obj] US : to make (a building, such as a house) better protected against winter weather • We'll *weatherize* the cabin with insulation.

weath-er-man /'weðə,mæn/ *noun*, *pl* -men /-,mən/ [count] : a man who reports and forecasts the weather

weather map *noun*, *pl* ~ **maps** [count] : a map that shows what the current weather in an area is and what the weather in that area will be in the coming hours or days

weath-er-per-son /'weðə,pə:sn/ *noun*, *pl* -peo-ple /-,pi:pəl/ [count] : a person who reports and forecasts the weather

¹weath-er-proof /'weðə,pru:f/ *adj*

1 : not able to be changed or damaged by the effects of the sun, wind, rain, etc. • The material is *weatherproof* and will not rot from moisture. • a *weatherproof* electrical outlet

2 : able to protect someone or something from the effects of the sun, wind, rain, etc. • a *weatherproof* coat

²weatherproof *verb* -proofs; -proofed; -proof-ing [+ obj] : to make (something) protected against the effects of the sun, wind, rain, etc. : to make (something) weatherproof • He *weatherproofed* his shoes. • a *weatherproofed* cabin

weather station *noun*, *pl* ~ -tions [count] : a place where scientists record and study information about the weather

weather stripping *noun* [noncount] US : long, thin pieces of material that are used to seal a door or window around its edges so that wind, rain, snow, etc., cannot pass through

— **weather strip** *noun*, *pl* ~ **strips** [count] • He put *weather strips* [=pieces of weather stripping] on the doors and windows. — **weather-strip** *verb* -strips; -stripped; -strip-ping [+ obj] • He *weather-stripped* the doors and windows.

weath-er vane /'weðə,veɪn/ *noun*, *pl* ~ **vanes** [count] : an object that is usually put on the top of a roof and that has an arrow that turns as the wind blows to show the direction of the wind

¹weave /'wi:v/ *verb* **weaves**; **wove** /'wouv/ or **weaved**; **wo-ven** /'wouvən/ or **weaved**; **weav-ing** ✧ *Wove* is the usual past tense and *woven* the usual past participle for senses 1, 2, and 4. *Weaved* is the usual past tense and past participle for sense 3.

1 : to make something (such as cloth) by crossing threads or other long pieces of material over and under each other [+ obj] She *weaves* cloth on her loom. • He *wove* a basket (from the branches). = He *wove* the branches into a basket. [no obj] She spins and *weaves*.

2 [+ obj] : to create something (such as a story) by combining different things in usually a complicated way • The author has *woven* an exciting tale of adventure and romance. • She *wove* episodes from many sources into a single narrative. — often + *together* • The musicians *wove together* a beautiful and complex melody. • The story *weaves together* [=combines] the past and present in surprising ways.

3 : to move from side to side while going forward especially in order to avoid the people or things that are in front of you [no obj] The car was *weaving* in and out of traffic. • She *weaved* through the defenders and scored a goal. [+ obj] He *weaved* his way through the crowd.

4 [+ obj] of a spider : to create (a web) : SPIN • a spider *weaving* its web

— **weav-er** /'wi:və/ *noun*, *pl* -ers [count] • a basket *weaver* • a *weaver* of blankets • a *weaver* of tales

²weave *noun*, *pl* **weaves** [count] : a pattern in a woven cloth : a particular way of weaving cloth • a twill/plain *weave* • an open *weave*

web /'web/ *noun*, *pl* **webs**

1 the Web : WORLD WIDE WEB • I spent the afternoon surfing *the Web*. — often used before another noun • a *Web* page • *Web* browsers

2 [count] : a net made from silk threads woven together by a spider : SPIDER WEB • The spider was spinning its *web*. — often used figuratively; often + *of* • He was caught in a *web of* lies. • a tangled *web of* deceit/deception

3 [count] : a complicated arrangement or pattern of things — usually + *of* • a *web of* city streets • a *web of* electrical cords • a complex *web of* relationships

4 [count] : an area of skin that is between the fingers or toes of an animal or bird (such as a duck)

— **web-like** /'web,lai/ *adj* • a *weblike* network of wires

webbed /'webd/ *adj* : having pieces of skin that connect all the toes on a foot • the *webbed* feet of ducks

web-bing /'webɪŋ/ *noun* [noncount] : strong and tightly woven material that is used in strips to support, catch, or hold things • I need to replace the *webbing* on the lawn chair. • the *webbing* of a baseball glove [=the part of a baseball glove between the thumb and fingers]

web-cam /'web,kæm/ *noun*, *pl* -cams [count] : a small video camera that is used to show live images on a Web site

web-cast /'web,kæst, Brit 'web,kɑ:st/ *verb* -casts; -cast; -cast-ing [+ obj] : to show or play (an event, a program, a musical performance, etc.) over the World Wide Web • We'll be *webcasting* the concert live.

— **webcast** *noun*, *pl* -casts [count] • We're watching a live *webcast* of the concert. — **web-cast-er** *noun*, *pl* -ers [count] — **webcasting** *noun* [noncount]

web-log /'web,lɑ:g/ *noun*, *pl* -logs [count] : BLOG



Web·mas·ter /'web,mæstə, Brit 'web,mɑ:stə/ *noun, pl -ters* [count] : a person whose job is to create and maintain a Web site

Web page *noun, pl ~ pages* [count] : a page of words, pictures, etc., that is shown on a Web site

Web site or **web·site** /'web,sait/ *noun, pl Web sites or web·sites* [count] : a place on the World Wide Web that contains information about a person, organization, etc., and that usually consists of many Web pages joined by hyperlinks • Visit our *Web site* at www.Merriam-Webster.com. • He posted pictures from his vacation on his *Web site*. • a corporate/news/sports *Web site*

wed /'wed/ *verb, not used in progressive tenses weds; wedded also wed; wed·ding*

1 *somewhat formal + old-fashioned* : MARRY [no obj] They will *wed* in the fall. [+ obj] The actress *wed* her fourth husband last year.

2 [+ obj] : to bring or join (two things) together • The novel *weds* tragedy and comedy. • His new writing job *wedded* his love of words and/to his eye for fashion.

we'd /'wi:d/ — used as a contraction of *we had* or *we would* • *We'd* [=we had] better be going. • We said *we'd* [=we would] try to do better.

Wed. *abbr* Wednesday

wedded *adj*

1 *formal* : MARRIED • Do you take this man as your lawfully *wedded* husband? • (*humorous*) *wedded bliss* [=the happiness experienced by people who are married]

2 : very closely involved and interested in something • He was *wedded* to his work. : supporting something very strongly • a program *wedded* to the ideals of justice for all peoples

wed·ding /'wedɪŋ/ *noun, pl -dings* [count] : a ceremony at which two people are married to each other • The *wedding* will be at 2:00 p.m. — often used before another noun • a *wedding* dress • a picture of the *wedding* party [=the bride, groom, and their attendants] • a *wedding* cake [=a large and fancy cake served at a wedding] — see color picture on page C16; see also WHITE WEDDING

hear wedding bells : to think that two people will get married to each other soon • The minute I saw your brother and my friend together, I *heard wedding bells*.

wedding rehearsal *noun, pl ~ -als* [count] : an event at which the people involved in a wedding ceremony practice what will be done at the ceremony ♦ A wedding rehearsal usually occurs on the day before the wedding.

wedding ring *noun, pl ~ rings* [count] : a ring that you wear as a sign that you are married — see color picture on page C11

¹wedge /'wedʒ/ *noun, pl wedg·es* [count]

1 : a piece of wood, metal, etc., with one pointed end and one thicker end that is used to split something, to fit into a space, to separate two things stuck together, etc. • He used a *wedge* to split the firewood. • A *wedge* held the door open.

2 : something that is shaped like a triangle or wedge • *wedges* of cheese • a lemon *wedge* • The battalion formed a *wedge* and marched toward the enemy.

3 : a golf club that is used for hitting short, high shots

drive a wedge between : to cause disagreement or anger between (people who had been friendly before) • A fight over their parents' estate *drove a wedge between* the brothers.

the thin end of the wedge see ¹THIN

²wedge *verb, always followed by an adverb or preposition wedges; wedged; wedg·ing* [+ obj]

1 : to force (someone or something) into a very small or narrow space • She *wedged* her foot into the crack. • The dog got *wedged* between the couch and the end table. • I *wedged* myself into the car's back seat. — sometimes used figuratively • The little shop was *wedged* between two larger stores. [=was located in the small space between two larger stores]

2 : to use a wedge or similar object to keep (something, such as a door or window) in an open or closed position • She *wedged* the door open.

wedge issue *noun, pl ~ -sues* [count] *US* : an issue about which a politician's supporters or the members of a political party disagree

wedg·ie /'wedʒi/ *noun, pl -ies* [count] *chiefly US slang* : the act of pulling the back of someone's underpants quickly up-

ward as a joke or prank • He gave me a *wedgie*.

wed·lock /'wed,lɔ:k/ *noun* [noncount] : the state of being married • Their child was born *out of wedlock* [=they were not married when their child was born]

Wednes·day /'wenz,dei/ *noun, pl -days* : the day of the week between Tuesday and Thursday [count] I had lunch with her last *Wednesday*. • I'll be seeing her again next *Wednesday*. • The class meets on *Wednesdays*. [=every Wednesday] • My birthday falls on a *Wednesday* this year. • (*Brit*) Next week I'll arrive on the *Wednesday* and leave on the Friday. [noncount] Next week I'll arrive on *Wednesday* and leave on Friday. • The paper is due on *Wednesday*. = (*chiefly US*) The paper is due *Wednesday*. • I will arrive on *Wednesday* morning. — *abbr. Wed. or Weds.*; see also ASH WEDNESDAY

— **Wednes·days** /'wenz,deiz/ *adv* • He works late *Wednesdays*. [=he works late every Wednesday]

Weds. *abbr* Wednesday

wee /'wi:/ *adj, chiefly Scotland + Ireland* : very small or very young • He's just a *wee* lad.

a *wee* bit *informal* : by a very small amount or, to a very small degree • She's a *wee* bit late. [=a little bit late] • I'm a *wee* bit confused.

wee hours see HOUR

¹weed /'wi:d/ *noun, pl weeds*

1 [count] : a plant that grows very quickly where it is not wanted and covers or kills more desirable plants • We pulled *weeds* from the garden. • an invasive *weed* — see also MILK-WEED, RAGWEED, SEAWEED, TUMBLEWEED

2 [noncount] *informal* : MARIJUANA • They were smoking *weed*.

3 *the weed* *chiefly Brit, informal* : cigarettes and other tobacco products • She's trying to give up *the weed*. [=trying to quit smoking]

grow like a weed *chiefly US, informal* : to grow very quickly • Their business is *growing like a weed*. • Look at you! You're *growing like a weed*!

²weed *verb* *weeds; weed·ed; weed·ing* [+ obj] : to remove weeds from (an area of land, such as a garden) • We need to *weed* the garden.

weed out [*phrasal verb*] *weed (someone or something) out or weed out (someone or something)* : to remove (people or things that are not wanted) from a group • They will review the applications to *weed out* the less qualified candidates. • He *weeded out* several unsuitable models before he found the right car.

weedy /'wi:di/ *adj* **weed·i·er; -est**

1 : full of weeds • a *weedy* garden

2 *Brit, informal* : looking thin and weak • a *weedy* little man

week /'wi:k/ *noun, pl weeks*

1 : a period of seven days ♦ In the U.S., a week is usually considered to start on Sunday and end on Saturday, while in the U.K. a week is usually considered to start on Monday and end on Sunday. [count] the last *week* of the month • I can meet you sometime next *week*. • The menu changes each/every *week*. • I volunteer at the school once a *week* [=once every week] • You can never be sure what will happen from one *week* to the next [noncount] The menu changes from *week* to *week* • These problems have continued *week after week* [=for several or many weeks] — see also HOLY WEEK

2 [count] : any period of seven days in a row • The baby is two *weeks* old. [a two-week-old baby] • I'll be on vacation for two *weeks* starting this Tuesday. • That car rents for \$200 a/per *week*. • We'll leave a *week* from today. [=seven days after today] • I arrived a *week* ago. • It took him two *weeks* to paint the house. • Sometimes he's away for *weeks* at a time. • The doctor said he wants to see me again in a *week*. = The doctor said he wants to see me again a *week* from now. = The doctor said he wants to see me again in a *week's* time

3 [count] : the days from Monday through Friday when people usually work • We're open from 9 to 5 all *week*. • He earns \$500 a *week* at his job. • I'll be working next *week*. • He has a 40-hour work *week*.

week in and week out *also week in, week out* : every week for many weeks : for a long time without stopping or changing • He has been working *week in and week out* with no vacation.

week·day /'wi:k,dei/ *noun, pl -days* [count] : any day of the week except Saturday and Sunday • The library is open on *weekdays* from 9:00 to 5:00.



wedge

— **week-days** /'wi:k,deɪz/ *adv*, chiefly US • We're open *weekdays* from 9 to 5.

¹**week-end** /'wi:k,ɛnd/ *noun*, *pl* **-ends** [*count*]

1 : Saturday and Sunday • What are you doing this *weekend*? • The office is closed on *weekends*. • I'm going away for the *weekend*. • (US) We're going to the city *on the weekend*. = (Brit) We're going to the city *at the weekend*.

2 : a trip or vacation that is taken on Saturday and Sunday • She won a *weekend* in Cancun.

long weekend : a weekend that includes the Friday before, the Monday after, or both because you do not have to work or go to school on those days • Next Friday is a holiday, so we'll have a *long weekend*.

— **week-ends** /'wi:k,ɛndz/ *adv* • He travels *weekends*.

²**weekend** *verb*, always followed by an adverb or preposition **-ends**; **-end-ed**; **-end-ing** [*no obj*] : to spend the weekend at a specified place • Her family *weekends* on the coast during the summer.

week-end-er /'wi:k'ɛndə/ *noun*, *pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who visits or stays in a place on the weekend • The town is populated with *weekenders* from New York City.

weekend warrior *noun*, *pl* ~ **-riors** [*count*] US, informal

1 : a member of the military reserves who trains on the weekends and for a few weeks every year

2 : a person who does a particular activity (such as a sport) only on the weekends

week-long /'wi:k'lɔ:ŋ/ *adj* : lasting for a week • We attended a *weeklong* training conference in Atlanta.

¹**week-ly** /'wi:kli/ *adj*

1 : happening, done, or made every week • I make *weekly* trips to the grocery store. • Our meetings are *weekly*.

2 : published once every week • a *weekly* newspaper column • a *weekly* newsletter

3 : of or relating to one week • a *weekly* paycheck [=the paycheck received every week] • the *weekly* rental rate

— **weekly** *adv* • We are paid *weekly*. [=once every week] • The newsletter is published *weekly*.

²**weekly** *noun*, *pl* **-lies** [*count*] : a magazine or newspaper that is published once every week

week-night /'wi:k,naɪt/ *noun*, *pl* **-nights** [*count*] : the evenings of Monday through Friday : any evening except Saturday or Sunday evening • The news is on every *weeknight* at 10 p.m. • Her parents don't want her to be out that late on a *weeknight*.

— **week-nights** /'wi:k,naɪts/ *adv* • We watch the news *week-nights* at 6 p.m.

wee-nie /'wi:ni/ *noun*, *pl* **-nies** [*count*] US

1 informal + disapproving : a weak person who is easily frightened : WIMP • Don't be such a *weenie*.

2 informal : HOT DOG • a *weenie* roast

3 slang : PENIS

¹**weep** /'wi:p/ *verb* **weeps**; **wept** /'wept/; **weep-ing**

1 somewhat formal : to cry because you are very sad or are feeling some other strong emotion [*no obj*] He *wept* at the news of her death. • She sat down and *wept*. • He *wept* with joy/relief. [+ *obj*] He *wept* bitter tears of disappointment.

2 : to produce a liquid slowly [+ *obj*] The wound was *weep-ing* pus. [=pus was slowly coming out from the wound] [*no obj*] a *weeping* wound • The meringue will *weep* if you put it in the fridge.

²**weep** *noun* [*singular*] Brit : an act of weeping or a period of time spent weeping • She sat down and had a *weep*. [=cry]

weep-er /'wi:pə/ *noun*, *pl* **-ers** [*count*] US, informal : a sad movie, song, etc., that makes people cry • The movie is a *weeper* about a single mother facing cancer.

finders keepers (losers weepers) see FINDER

weep-ie /'wi:pi/ *noun*, *pl* **-ies** [*count*] US, informal : a sad movie that makes people cry : TEARJERKER

weeping *adj*, of a tree : having thin branches that hang down toward the ground • a *weeping* willow • a *weeping* cherry tree

weepy /'wi:pi/ *adj* **weep-i-er**; **-est** informal : crying or likely to cry • I was starting to feel *weepy*. [=to feel as if I was going to cry] • She started getting *weepy* when she talked about her mother. : happening or done with tears • He gave me a *weepy* [=tearful] apology.

wee-vil /'wi:vəl/ *noun*, *pl* **-vils** [*count*] : a small insect that eats grains and seeds and that can ruin crops — see also BOLL WEEVIL

wee-wee /'wi:,wi:/ *verb* **-wees**; **-weed**; **-wee-ing** [*no obj*] informal : to pass urine from the body : URINATE — used

especially by children or when talking to children • The doggie *wee-wee* on the carpet.

— **wee-wee** *noun* [*noncount*] • The dog *went wee-wee* on the carpet. [=the dog urinated on the carpet]

weft /'weft/ *noun* [*singular*] technical : the threads that run from side to side on a loom or in a woven fabric — called also *woof*; compare ²WARP 2

weigh /'wei/ *verb* **weighs**; **weighed**; **weigh-ing**

1 a [+ *obj*] : to find how heavy (someone or something) is : to measure the weight of (someone or something) • She *weighs* herself every morning. • He used a scale to *weigh* the bananas. b not used in progressive tenses [*linking verb*] : to have a specified weight • I *weigh* 180 pounds. • The bananas *weigh* more than the apples. • How much do you *weigh*? • This box *weighs* a ton. [=is very heavy]

2 [+ *obj*] : to think carefully about (something) in order to form an opinion or make a decision : CONSIDER • You will need to *weigh* the pros and cons. • He took time to *weigh* his options. • You should *weigh your words* [=think carefully about what you are going to say] before you answer that question. — often + *up* • She tried to *weigh up* [=evaluate] the pros and cons of staying at her current job. — see also WEIGH UP (below)

3 always followed by an adverb or preposition [*no obj*] : to be considered in a specified way when a person or thing is being judged • The evidence *weighs* (heavily) against him. [=the evidence is not in his favor] • Her previous experience *weighs* in her favor.

weigh down [*phrasal verb*] 1 *weigh* (someone or something) down or *weigh down* (someone or something) : to press down on (someone or something) : to make (someone or something) heavier and less able to move easily • My heavy backpack *weighed* me down. • The boat was *weighed down* by the extra cargo. 2 *weigh* (someone) down or *weigh down* (someone) : to cause (someone) to accept or deal with something difficult or unpleasant • I don't want to *weigh* you down with my bad news. • I'm feeling *weighed down* [=burdened] by all the work I have to do.

weigh in [*phrasal verb*] 1 *weigh in* or *weigh* (someone) in or *weigh in* (someone) : to be weighed or to weigh (someone) before competing in a fight, race, etc. • When will the jockeys *weigh in*? • The boxers were *weighed in* before the fight. — see also WEIGH-IN 2 *weigh in* : to have a specified weight — + *at* • He *weighs in* at 240 pounds. [=he weighs 240 pounds] 3 *weigh in* informal : to give your opinion about something • I think we're pretty much decided, unless you want to *weigh in*. — often + *with* • Would you like to *weigh in with* your opinion? [=would you like to say what your opinion is?] — often + *on* in U.S. English • Do you want to *weigh in on* our weekend plans? [=do you want to say your opinion about our weekend plans?]

weigh on [*phrasal verb*] *weigh on* (someone) : to make (someone or something) sad, depressed, or worried • The bad news is really *weighing on* me. • I can tell that something is *weighing on* his mind. [=that he's worried about something]

weigh out [*phrasal verb*] *weigh* (something) out or *weigh out* (something) : to measure and remove a certain weight of (something) : to separate (a portion of something that weighs a certain amount) • Would you *weigh out* 20 pounds of rice? • I *weighed* the portions out and distributed them.

weigh up [*phrasal verb*] *weigh* (someone) up or *weigh up* (someone) : to look at and listen to (someone) in order to make a judgment about that person's character, abilities, etc. • She was watching him closely as he spoke, *weighing him up*. [=sizing him up] — see also WEIGH 2 (above)

weigh-in /'wei:ɪn/ *noun*, *pl* **-ins** [*count*] : an occurrence in which an athlete (such as a boxer or jockey) is weighed before an event • The boxers arrived for the pre-fight *weigh-in*. — see also *weigh in* at WEIGH

¹**weight** /'weɪt/ *noun*, *pl* **weights**

1 [*noncount*] a : a measurement that indicates how heavy a person or thing is • Please indicate your height and *weight* on the form. • Her *weight* is 105 pounds. b : the amount that a person or thing weighs : the heaviness of a person or thing • The boat sank under the *weight* of the cargo. • The doctor says you shouldn't put any *weight* on that foot for a week. [=you shouldn't stand on that foot for a week] • Those columns have to be strong enough to support the *weight* of the roof. • I'm trying to *lose* (some) *weight*. [=to become less heavy or fat] • He is trying to *watch his weight*. [=to lose weight or to not gain weight] • I think she has *gained weight*.

[=become heavier] — see also DEAD WEIGHT, OVERWEIGHT, UNDERWEIGHT

2 [count] **a** : a heavy object that is lifted during exercising • a 10-pound *weight* • He stays in good shape by *lifting weights*. • She likes to exercise using *free weights*. [=weights (such as dumbbells and barbells) that are not attached to a piece of equipment] **b** : a heavy object that is used to press something down or to hold something in place • I use *pie weights* to keep the pie crust from bubbling when I bake it. — see also COUNTERWEIGHT, PAPERWEIGHT

3 [count] : a unit of measurement (such as a pound, kilogram, etc.) used for showing how heavy someone or something is • *weights and measures* • a metric *weight*

4 [singular] **a** : something that causes worry or sadness • When I told her the truth I felt as if a *weight* had been lifted from my mind. • Well, that's a *weight off my mind/shoulders*. [=that's a relief] **b** : a difficult responsibility • I wish there were some way I could help lift this *weight* [=load, burden] from his shoulders. • He *bore the weight* of having to tell the family the bad news.

5 [noncount] **a** : the influence or power someone or something has over other people or things • He has a lot of *weight* in the company. • Several senators *put/threw their weight behind* the bill. [=used their influence to support the bill] • (*disapproving*) The new manager immediately started *throwing her weight around*, making changes to staff and policy. **b** : the power to influence the opinions of other people • Her opinion carries a lot of *weight* with me. [=her opinion is very important to me] • This new evidence gives added *weight* to his claims. [=makes his claims more believable]

pull your own weight : to do the things that you should be doing as part of a group of people who are working together • You have to *pull your own weight* around here if you want to stay.

worth your weight in gold see ¹GOLD

2 *weight* verb *weights*; *weight-ed*; *weight-ing* [+ *obj*] : to put a weight on (something) to make it heavier or to keep it from moving • I *weighted* the fishing line with a lead sinker. — often + *down* • I *weighted* the papers *down* with a rock. — sometimes used figuratively • He was *weighted down* [=weighed down] with worry.

weight-ed /'weɪtəd/ *adj*

1 : held in place or made heavier by a weight • a *weighted* fishing line • The head of the golf club was *weighted*.

2 — used to say that something favors or does not favor a particular person, group, etc. • The ranking system is unfairly *weighted in favor of* the largest schools. • They feel that the system is *weighted against* them. • The new tax law is *weighted toward* people with higher incomes.

weighting noun [noncount] *Brit* : an amount added to your salary because you work in an area where things are expensive • The salary alone is not high, but you also get a London *weighting*.

weight-less /'weɪtləs/ *adj* : having no weight or seeming to have no weight • a light fabric that feels almost *weightless* • She floated in the pool, *weightless*. • The astronauts are living in a *weightless* environment. [=an environment in which people and things float because they are not affected in the usual way by gravity]

— *weight-less-ness* noun [noncount]

weight lifting noun [noncount] : the activity of lifting weights for exercise or in competition • I stay in shape by *weight lifting*.

— *weight lifter* noun, *pl* ~ *-ers* [count] • He had the physique of a *weight lifter*.

weight machine noun, *pl* ~ *-chines* [count] : a machine with weights attached that is used for exercise

weight room noun, *pl* ~ *rooms* [count] : a large room where people lift weights and exercise

weight training noun [noncount] : the activity of lifting weights regularly to strengthen your muscles

weighty /'weɪti/ *adj* *weight-i-er*; *-est* [also *more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : having a lot of weight : HEAVY • She grabbed a *weighty* book off the shelf.

2 : very important and serious • The film deals with some *weighty* issues.

3 : having the power to influence the opinions of other people • Those are *weighty* arguments in your favor. • He was a *weighty* figure in the art world.

— *weight-i-ness* /'weɪtɪnəs/ noun [noncount]

weir /'weə, 'wiə/ noun, *pl* *weirs* [count] : a low wall or dam

built across a stream or river to raise the level of the water or to change the direction of its flow

1 *weird* /'wiəd/ *adj* *weird-er*; *-est* [also *more* ~; *most* ~] : unusual or strange • She listens to some really *weird* [=bizarre] music. • My little brother acts *weird* sometimes. • I heard a *weird* noise. • That's *weird*—I put my book down right here just a few minutes ago and now it's gone. • a *weird-looking* creature

— *weird-ly* *adv* • Why are you behaving so *weirdly*? • a *weird-ly* entertaining movie — *weird-ness* noun [noncount]

2 *weird* verb *weirds*; *weird-ed*; *weird-ing*

weird out [*phrasal verb*] *weird* (someone) out or *weird out* (someone) *US, informal* : to make (someone) feel strange or uncomfortable • I don't mean to *weird* you out. • That movie totally *weirded* me out.

weirdo /'wiədou/ noun, *pl* *weird-os* [count] *informal* + *disapproving* : a strange or unusual person • He's such a *weirdo*.

1 *wel-come* /'welkəm/ *interj* — used as a friendly greeting to someone who has arrived at a place • *Welcome* to America! • *Welcome* home! • *Welcome* back. We missed you.

welcome to the club see ¹CLUB

2 *welcome* *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : giving someone happiness or pleasure • That is *welcome* news. • That will be a *welcome* change. • He was a *welcome* sight.

2 — used to say that you are happy to have someone come to and stay in a place (such as your home) • You're always *welcome* in our home. [=we are always glad to have you as a guest in our home] • They always made us feel very *welcome* when we visited them.

3 a — used to say that someone can have or take something because you do not want it yourself; + *to* • If you want that last cookie, you're *welcome to* it—I can't eat another bite. • If she really wants this old computer, she's *welcome to* it. **b** — used to say that someone can certainly do or use something if he or she wants to; followed by *to* + *verb* • Anyone is *welcome to use* the pool. [=anyone can use the pool] • You are *welcome to sleep* here if you want.

you're welcome — used as a response to someone who has thanked you • "Thanks for the ride." "You're welcome."

3 *welcome* verb *-comes*; *-comed*; *-com-ing* [+ *obj*]

1 : to greet (someone) in a warm and friendly manner • She *welcomed* the students into her home. • We *welcome* you to the show.

2 : to receive or accept (something) with happiness or pleasure • He's a bright student who *welcomes* a challenge. • We *welcome* your comments/suggestions. [=we will be glad to receive any comments/suggestions you may have] • I *welcome* this opportunity [=I am glad to have this opportunity] to explain what really happened.

4 *welcome* noun, *pl* *-comes* [count] : the way in which someone is greeted • He extended a warm *welcome* to the new family in town. [=he greeted the new family warmly] • He was given a hero's *welcome* when he returned home after winning the race. • They gave us a cold *welcome*. [=they did not greet us in a friendly way] — sometimes used figuratively • Her suggestion was given a cold *welcome*. [=people did not like her suggestion]

outstay/overstay your welcome or *wear out your welcome* : to be no longer welcome to stay in a place because you have stayed too long, been impolite, etc. • After staying for a week, she felt she had *worn out her welcome*. • As much as he has contributed to the company, he has *outstayed his welcome* and needs to go.

welcome mat noun, *pl* ~ *mats* [count] *US* : a small rug that is placed by the door of a person's house, apartment, etc., for guests to wipe their feet on before entering

put/roll/throw out the welcome mat : to welcome someone in a warm and friendly way • The family *rolled out the welcome mat* for the new exchange student.

1 *welcoming* *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : friendly and pleasant : having qualities that make you feel welcome • The hotel staff is very *welcoming*. • a *welcoming* atmosphere/host

2 *welcoming* noun [singular] : a friendly greeting : WELCOME • The college president gave the new students a warm *welcoming*.

1 *weld* /'weld/ verb *welds*; *weld-ed*; *weld-ing*

1 : to join pieces of metal together by heating the edges until they begin to melt and then pressing them together [*no obj*] She learned how to *weld*. [+ *obj*] We *welded* the beams together.

2 [+ *obj*] : to join or bring (people or things) close together •

They were *welded* together in friendship. • His style of painting *welds* impressionism with surrealism.

²**weld** *noun, pl welds* [count] : a connection made by welding pieces of metal • That *weld* won't hold.

weld-er /'weldə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count] : a person whose job is to weld materials together

wel-fare /'wel,fəə/ *noun* [noncount]

¹ : a government program for poor or unemployed people that helps pay for their food, housing, medical costs, etc. • He wants to do away with *welfare*. • His family is *on welfare*. [=receiving government assistance] — often used before another noun • *welfare* benefits/programs/payments/costs • *welfare families* [=families that receive welfare] — sometimes used figuratively • (*chiefly US*) *corporate welfare* [=money or aid given by the government to help a large company]

² : the state of being happy, healthy, or successful : WELL-BEING • I have your *welfare* at heart. • The *welfare* of all the orphans was at stake. • She donates to organizations concerned about animal *welfare*.

welfare state *noun, pl ~ states* [count, noncount] : a social system in which a government is responsible for the economic and social welfare of its citizens and has policies to provide free health care, money for people without jobs, etc. • supporters/opponents of *the welfare state*; also [count] : a country that has such a system

¹**well** /'wel/ *adv* **bet-ter** /'betə-/; **best** /'best/

¹ **a** : in a successful way • "How did everything go?" "It went *well*, thank you." • The plan worked *well*. • She works *well* under pressure. • I did surprisingly *well* on my history test. • The company is doing *well*. • He has his own business and is *doing well* for himself. • You got a perfect score! *Well done!* — see also *do well* at ¹DO **b** : in a skillful way • She sings and plays the guitar quite *well*. • The essay is *well* written. **c** : in a good, proper, or positive way • He doesn't smoke or drink, and he eats *well*. • She doesn't treat her boyfriend very *well*. • Did he take the news *well*? [=did he respond to the news in a positive way?] • The decision did not *sit well* with him. [=he was not happy about the decision] **d** : in a kind, friendly, or generous way • The novel was *well* received by the critics. • They always speak *well* of you. • I *wish her well*. [=I hope she does well; I hope that she succeeds] • He *means well* [=he has good intentions], but he's not really helping anyone. • The company *did well* by me when I retired. [=the company treated me well when I retired]

² : completely or fully • We are *well* aware of the problem. • The food at the restaurant is *well* worth the trip. • Their kitchen is *well* equipped. • Your promotion is *well* deserved. • The plane was *well* out of sight. • I can understand your dilemma very *well*. • She knows the area quite *well*. • I knew him *well* when we were in high school together. • I remember her *well enough* = I remember her *fairly well*.

³ : to a great degree or extent • The group has sold *well* over a million albums. • The temperature will be *well* [=far] above average today. It will be *well* into the nineties. • He is *well* on his way to becoming a superstar. • I'm *well* into the book and should finish it soon. • She walked *well* ahead of the group.

⁴ **a** — used for emphasis to say that something is or is not proper, appropriate, etc. • She's angry, and *well* she should be. [=she has a good reason to be angry] — usually used with *can*, *could*, *may*, or *might* • I *cannot* very *well* refuse the invitation. [=it would be improper for me to refuse the invitation] • I *couldn't* very *well* just walk right in! • And what, one *might/may well* ask, makes this computer system worth its high price? • The decision *may well* be questioned. **b** : very possibly — usually used with *could*, *may*, or *might* • You *could* very *well* be right. [=it is very possible that you are right] • The concert *may well* be sold-out. [=it is possible/likely that the concert is sold-out] • It *may well* be true. **c** : without doubt or question • They can *well* afford to be generous. • As you *well know*, I don't approve of this. = As you know very *well*, I don't approve of this. • You know *perfectly well* how to do it. • Their relationship is *well and truly* over.

⁵ **a** ♦ To *live well* is to live in the comfortable and enjoyable way of people who have a lot of money, possessions, etc. • He made a lot of money in real estate and was able to *live* very *well* after his retirement. **b** ♦ To *marry well* is to marry someone who has high social status, wealth, etc. • Their son/daughter married *well*.

as well ¹ **as well (as)** : in addition to someone or something else • You bought a new car? I bought one *as well*. [=also, too] • He is loyal, and brave *as well*. = He is brave as

well as loyal. [=he is brave and also loyal] • The coach, *as well* as the team, is ready. • She is good at softball *as well* as basketball. ² **a** — used in phrases like *might as well* and *may as well* to say that something should be done or accepted because it cannot be avoided or because there is no good reason not to do it • You *might as well* tell them the truth. • We *may as well* begin now. • They're not going to change their decision, so you *might (just) as well* get used to it. • (*informal*) "Should we start now?" "*Might as well.*" **b** — used to say that something else could have been done with the same result • The party was so dull that I *might (just) as well* have stayed home. ³ : in the same way • You *know as well as I do* [=you and I both know] that we can't afford that car.

²**well** *adj* **better; best**

¹ : in good health : HEALTHY • The children are *well* again. • He is not *well*. = He is not a *well* man. • I don't feel very *well*. • You don't look so *well*. • I hope you *get well* soon.

² *not used before a noun* : in a good or satisfactory state • I hope all is *well* with you and your family. • We almost didn't make it here, but *all's well that ends well*. [=we can forget about how unpleasant or difficult it was because everything ended in a good way] • I should have *left/let well (enough) alone* [=I should not have tried to make the situation better], but instead I tried to help and only made things worse.

³ *not used before a noun, formal* : wise, sensible, or reasonable • It might be *well* [=it might be a good idea] for you to leave now. • It would be *as well* for you to get some rest. [=you should get some rest]

alive and well see ALIVE

all very well or all well and good — used to say that something may seem proper, good, or reasonable by itself but that there are other things that also have to be considered • *It's all very well* your telling me to take it easy, but I have a deadline to meet! • They say we have to improve our schools. *That's all very well*, but the question is, how can we find the money to do it? • It is *all well and good* that you have been enjoying yourself, but you have to start saving your money.

just as well see ²JUST

very well see ¹VERY

³**well** *interj*

¹ — used to show that you are unsure about something you are saying • They are, *well*, not quite what you'd expect. • "How old is he?" "*Well*, let me see now . . ." • "Can you explain how it works?" "*Well*, I can try." • *Well*, I suppose I could help you just this once.

² — used to show that you accept something even though you are not happy about it • "I'm sorry about the mix-up." "*Well*, that's OK. These things happen." • Oh, *very well*. I suppose we can finish this discussion tomorrow. • "We're busy this week." "*Oh, well*, maybe we can get together next week."

³ — used when you are trying to persuade someone or to make someone feel less upset, worried, etc. • *Well*, maybe it won't be that bad. • *Well*, you should at least consider their offer before you reject it.

⁴ — used when you are saying in a mild way that you disapprove of or disagree with something • *Well*, what if you're wrong? • *Well*, I still think my way is better.

⁵ — used to show that you are waiting for someone to say or do something • *Well*, what have you decided? • *Well*, don't just stand there—give me a hand!

⁶ — used to say that something has ended or to make a final statement about something • *Well*, we'd better get going. • *Well*, that's all of it. • *Well*, thanks for everything. • *Well then*, it's all set. There's nothing more to do.

⁷ — used to begin a story or explanation or to continue one that was interrupted • *Well*, what happened was this. I fell asleep. • *Well*, as I was saying, I had never been there before. • You know Tom, don't you? *Well*, I ran into him yesterday. • "He speaks excellent Spanish." "*Well*, after all, he did study in Spain for a couple of years."

⁸ — used to express happiness or relief • "We're getting married." "*Well*, that's great news! Congratulations!" • "The doctor says it's nothing serious." "*Well*, thank goodness!"

⁹ — used to express surprise or annoyance • *Well, well*, what do we have here? • *Well*, hello! I wasn't expecting you so soon. • *Well*, if it isn't my old friend Tom! • Is that so? *Well*, I never would have guessed. • *Well!* It's about time you showed up!

¹⁰ — used when you want to correct a previous statement • Everyone—*well*, almost everyone—attended the meeting.

⁴**well** *noun, pl wells* [count]

- 1** : a deep hole made in the ground through which water can be removed — see also ARTESIAN WELL, WISHING WELL
2 : OIL WELL
 — see also INKWELL, STAIRWELL
- 5** **well** *verb* **wells; welled; well-ing** [*no obj*] *of a liquid* : to rise to a surface and flow out — usually + *up* • Tears of joy *welled up* in her eyes. [=her eyes filled with tears of joy] — often used figuratively • He felt anger *welling up* inside him. [=he felt himself becoming angry]
- we'll** /'wi:l, 'wɪl/ — used as a contraction of *we will* • *We'll* be waiting.
- well-ad-just-ed** /,welə'dʒʌstəd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : able to deal with other people in a normal or healthy way • He is now a happy, *well-adjusted* adult. — opposite MALADJUSTED
- well-ad-vised** /,weləd'vaɪzd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : wise or sensible • You would be *well-advised* to accept their offer. • She made a *well-advised* decision. — opposite ILL-ADVISED
- well-ap-point-ed** /,welə'pɔɪntəd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *formal* : having all the furniture, equipment, etc., that you need • a *well-appointed* apartment
- well-ba-lanced** /,wel'bælənst/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : having good or equal amounts of all the necessary parts of something • a *well-balanced* meal/diet • a *well-balanced* account of the event
- well-be-haved** /,welbr'heɪvd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : behaving in a polite or correct way • a *well-behaved* dog • Your children are very *well-behaved*.
- well-be-ing** /'wel'bi:jɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the state of being happy, healthy, or successful • Meditation can increase a person's sense of *well-being*. — often + *of* • The *well-being* of our families was at stake. • the economic *well-being* of the state
- well-born** /'wel'bɔ:n/ *adj, formal + old-fashioned* : coming from a noble, important, or wealthy family • *wellborn* young ladies
- well-bred** /'wel'brɛd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *somewhat old-fashioned* : having or showing good manners : POLITE • a *well-bred* child • He was too *well-bred* to tell her that he didn't like her singing. — opposite ILL-BRED
- well-built** /'wel'bɪlt/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]
1 : built to be strong or to work well • a *well-built* house/car/system
2 : physically strong or attractive • He's *well-built*.
- well-con-nect-ed** /,welkə'nektəd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : having important and powerful friends • a *well-connected* lawyer
- well-de-fined** /,weldr'faɪnd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : easy to see or understand • a *well-defined* boundary • *well-defined* policies — opposite ILL-DEFINED
- well-de-vel-oped** /,weldr'veləpt/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : large, advanced, or complete : fully developed • *well-developed* muscles • She has a *well-developed* sense of humor. • Their plan is *well-developed*.
- well-dis-posed** /,weldr'spouzɪd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *formal* : having a favorable or friendly feeling about someone or something — often + *toward* or *to* • Many people remain *well-disposed toward* the government. • They are not *well-disposed to* the idea. — opposite ILL-DISPOSED
- well-doc-u-ment-ed** /,wel'dɔ:kjə'mentəd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] — used to describe something that is known about or known to be true because there are many documents that describe it, prove it, etc. • a *well-documented* account/case/fact • That part of her life is not *well-documented*.
- well-done** /'wel'dʌn/ *adj* : cooked completely • a *well-done* steak — compare MEDIUM, RARE, UNDERDONE
- well-dressed** /,wel'drest/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : wearing attractive or fashionable clothes • He is a *well-dressed* man.
- well-earned** /'wel'ænd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : fully deserved • a *well-earned* reputation/rest • Her success is *well-earned*.
- well-en-dowed** /,welɪn'dəʊd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]
1 *of a woman, informal* : having large breasts
2 *of a man, informal* : having a large penis
3 *of a school, museum, etc.* : having plenty of money : having a large endowment • a *well-endowed* university
- well-fed** /'wel'fed/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : having plenty of food to eat • *well-fed* pets • The dinner they served wasn't fancy, but we went home *well-fed*.
- well-found-ed** /,wel'faʊndəd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : based on good reasoning, information, or judgment • *well-founded* fears/advice
- well-groomed** /,wel'gru:md/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]
1 *of people* : having a clean, neat appearance • The men were *well-groomed*.
2 *of things* : made very neat, tidy, and attractive • *well-groomed* lawns
- well-ground-ed** /,wel'graʊndəd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]
1 : having good training in a subject or activity • She is *well-grounded in* Latin and Greek.
2 : WELL-FOUNDED • *well-grounded* fears
- well-heeled** /,wel'hild/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *informal* : having plenty of money : WEALTHY • *well-heeled* investors
- well-lie or well-ly** /'weli/ *noun, pl well-lies* [*count*] *Brit, informal* : WELLINGTON
- well-in-formed** /,welɪn'fɔ:md/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]
1 : having a lot of knowledge about current topics, a particular situation, etc. • a *well-informed* doctor • They kept me *well-informed* about her condition.
2 : based on facts • a *well-informed* decision/opinion — opposite ILL-INFORMED
- Well-ing-ton** /'welɪŋtən/ *noun, pl -tons* [*count*] *Brit* : a tall boot made of rubber : RUBBER BOOT
- well-in-ten-tioned** /,welɪn'tenʃənd/ *adj* : WELL-MEANING • She was *well-intentioned* but not very helpful. • *well-intentioned* advice
- well-kept** /'wel'kept/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]
1 : always having a neat, tidy, and attractive appearance • *well-kept* houses/lawns
2 : known by only a few people • a *well-kept* secret
- well-known** /'wel'nəʊn/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : known by many people • a *well-known* writer/fact
- well-liked** /'wel'laɪkt/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : liked by many people • a *well-liked* restaurant • He is *well-liked* by everyone.
- well-made** /'wel'meɪd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : made in an effective, strong, or skillful way • *well-made* [=well-built] furniture • a *well-made* wine • a *well-made* movie
- well-man-nered** /,wel'mænəd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *formal* : having good manners : POLITE • a *well-mannered* child — opposite ILL-MANNERED
- well-mean-ing** /,wel'mi:nɪŋ/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : having or showing a desire to do something good but often producing bad results • *well-meaning* but misguided politicians • a *well-meaning* effort to improve the school system
- well-meant** /,wel'ment/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : based on a desire to do something good but often producing bad results • *well-meant* [=well-meaning] advice
- well-ness** /'welnəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly US* : the quality or state of being healthy • Daily exercise is proven to promote *wellness*. — often used before another noun • a *wellness* center/program [=a center/program that helps you become healthy]
- well-nigh** /'wel'naɪ/ *adv, formal* : almost or nearly • *well-nigh* perfect • It was *well-nigh* impossible to resist the temptation.
- well-off** /'wel'ɔ:f/ *adj* **better off; best off** [*also more ~; most ~*]
1 : WEALTHY • Her family is extremely *well-off*.
2 : in a good position or situation • He *doesn't know when he is well-off*. [=he complains even when his situation is good] — usually used as *better off* • You might be *better off* in a different career.
3 *Brit* : having a lot of something — + *for* • She is *well-off for* money. • Both teams are *well-off for* good players.
- well-oiled** /,wel'ɔɪld/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : working in a proper and successful way • Her campaign is a *well-oiled* political machine.
- well-or-dered** /,wel'ɔ:dəd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : carefully organized or controlled • a *well-ordered* household • *well-ordered* lives
- well-placed** /,wel'pleɪst/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : directed or positioned in a way that is good or useful • a *well-placed* piece of furniture • She included a few *well-placed* jokes in her lecture. • He has some *well-placed* friends in the government.
- well-pre-served** /,welprɪ'zəvd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : kept in good condition over a long period of time • *well-preserved* fossils • (*humorous*) She just turned 60, but she's *well-preserved*. [=she looks younger than 60]
- well-read** /,wel'red/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : having gained a

lot of knowledge by reading • a *well-read* scholar • He is *well-read* in U.S. history.

well-round-ed /ˌwɛlˈraʊndəd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : educated in many different subjects • *well-rounded* students

2 : including many different things : having a lot of variety • a *well-rounded* education/diet

well-run /ˌwɛlˈrʌn/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : managed in a skillful way • a *well-run* organization

well-spo-ken /ˌwɛlˈspoukən/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : speaking well, politely, or appropriately • a *well-spoken* young woman

2 : spoken in an appropriate and proper way • *well-spoken* words

well-spring /ˌwɛlˈsprɪŋ/ *noun, pl -springs* [count] : something or someone that provides a large amount of something : a good source of something • The tour guide was a *well-spring* of information.

well-thought-of /ˌwɛlˈθɔ:tɪv/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : having a good reputation • a *well-thought-of* attorney • She is very *well-thought-of*.

well-thought-out /ˌwɛlˈθɔ:tɔʊt/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : carefully considered and formed • a *well-thought-out* plan

well-timed /ˌwɛlˈtaɪmd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : done or happening at a good or suitable time : **TIMELY** • a *well-timed* announcement • The release of the book was *well-timed*.

— opposite **ILL-TIMED**

well-to-do /ˌwɛltəˈduː/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : having plenty of money and possessions : **WEALTHY** • a *well-to-do* family

well-tried /ˌwɛlˈtraɪd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] chiefly *Brit* : **TRIED-AND-TRUE** • *well-tried* methods

well-trod-den /ˌwɛlˈtrɔːdn/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : walked on by many people • a *well-trodden* path — often used figuratively • The book covers some *well-trodden* ground.

well-turned /ˌwɛlˈtænd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *formal* : expressed in a proper or skillful way • a *well-turned* phrase

well-wish-er /ˌwɛlˈwɪʃə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count] : someone who wants another person to be happy, successful, etc. • Dozens of *well-wishers* gathered to say goodbye to him.

well-worn /ˌwɛlˈwɔːn/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : having been used or worn a lot and no longer in good condition • *well-worn* shoes

2 : not interesting or effective because of being used too often • a *well-worn* quotation

welsh /ˌwɛlʃ/ *verb welsh-es; welshed; welsh-ing*

welsh/on [*phrasal verb*] *welsh/on* (something) *informal* + *disapproving* : to fail or refuse to do (something that you said you would do) • She *welshes on* her promises. • He *welshed on* his loan. [=he did not repay his loan]

Welsh /ˌwɛlʃ/ *noun*

1 [*noncount*] : the language of the Welsh people

2 *the Welsh* : the people of Wales

— *Welsh adj* • *Welsh* literature

Welsh dresser *noun, pl ~ -ers* [count] *Brit* : **HUTCH** 1

Welsh rare-bit /-ˈreəbət/ *noun, pl ~ -bits* [count, *noncount*] : melted cheese served on toast or crackers — called also *Welsh rabbit*

welt /ˌwɛlt/ *noun, pl welts* [count] : a usually large bump or red area that appears on your skin because of injury or illness

wel-ter /ˌwɛltə/ *noun* [*singular*] *formal* : a large and confusing number or amount — + *of* • a *welter of* problems • We need to sort through the *welter of* data we have collected.

wel-ter-weight /ˌwɛltəˈweɪt/ *noun, pl -weights* [count] : a fighter in a class of boxers who weigh up to 147 pounds (67 kilograms) : a boxer who is heavier than a lightweight and lighter than a middleweight — often used before another noun • the *welterweight* champion

wench /ˌwɛntʃ/ *noun, pl wench-es* [count] *old-fashioned* + *humorous* : a young woman; *especially* : a young woman who is a servant

wend /ˌwɛnd/ *verb wends; wend-ed; wend-ing* *literary* : to move from one place to another [*no obj*] We *wended* through the narrow streets. [*+ obj*] We *wended our way* through the narrow streets.

Wen-dy house /ˌwɛndi-/ *noun, pl ~ hous-es* [count] *Brit* : **PLAYHOUSE** 2

went *past tense of* ¹**GO**

wept *past tense and past participle of* ¹**WEEP**

were *see* **BE**

we're /ˌwiə, wə/ — used as a contraction of *we are* • *We're*

here. • We need to discuss the problems *we're* having.

weren't /ˌwɛrənt/ — used as a contraction of *were not* • We *weren't* expecting to win.

were-wolf /ˌwɛəˈwʊlf/ *noun, pl -wolves* /-ˌwʊlvz/ [count] *in stories* : a person who sometimes changes into a wolf especially when the moon is full

¹**west** /ˌwest/ *noun*

1 [*noncount*] : the direction where the sun sets : the direction that is the opposite of east • There's a beautiful pond to the *west* of the trail. • We will be traveling into the city from the *west*. • If that way is east, then this way is *west*.

2 *the west or the West* : regions or countries west of a certain point: such as a : the western part of the U.S. • Floods have caused extensive damage in *the West*. • Come explore the natural wonders of *the American West*. — *see also* **WILD WEST** b : North America and Western Europe • policies foreign to *the West*

²**west** *adj*

1 : located in or toward the west • the *west* entrance • cities on the *west* coast

2 : coming from the west • a *west* wind

³**west** *adv* : to or toward the west • They drove *west* after they got off the highway. • They live just *west* of here.

out West or out west *US, informal* : in or to the western part of a country or region • He headed *out west* after he graduated.

west-bound /ˌwestˈbaʊnd/ *adj* : going toward the west • Traffic in the *westbound* lane is backing up. • a *westbound* train

west-er-ly /ˌwestəli/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : located or moving toward the west • They sailed in a *west-erly* direction. • the lake's *westerly* shore

2 : blowing from the west • strong *westerly* winds

¹**west-ern** /ˌwestən/ *adj*

1 [more ~; most ~] : located in or toward the west • the *west-ern* part of the state • the island's *western* shore • the *western* U.S. • *Western* Africa

2 *Western* : of or relating to the countries of North America and Western Europe • *Western* culture • *Western* values • the *Western* world

3 : of or relating to the American West • Old *western* movies are my favorites. — *see also* **COUNTRY AND WESTERN**

— **west-ern-most** /ˌwestənˈmoust/ *adj* • the *westernmost* part of the state

²**western** *noun, pl -erns* [count] : a story, movie, or television show about life in the American West in the late 19th century; *especially* : a movie about cowboys

West-ern-er /ˌwestənə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count]

1 : a person born, raised, or living in North America or Western Europe • *Westerners* tend to be unfamiliar with Asian customs.

2 : a person born, raised, or living in the western U.S. — compare **EASTERNER**

west-ern-ize or **West-ern-ize** *also* *Brit* **west-ern-ise** /ˌwestənˈaɪz/ *verb -iz-es; -ized; -izing* : to cause (someone or something) to have the qualities or characteristics that are associated with Western Europe and North America [*+ obj*] *westernized* cities/countries • He decided to *westernize* his name after moving from Japan to Canada. [*no obj*] The city has begun to *westernize*.

— **west-ern-i-za-tion** or **West-ern-i-za-tion** *also* *Brit* **west-ern-i-sa-tion** /ˌwestənəˈzeɪʃən, *Brit* ˌwestənˈaɪˈzeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

Western medicine *noun* [*noncount*] : the typical methods of healing or treating disease that are taught in Western medical schools

west-ward /ˌwestwəd/ *also* *chiefly* *Brit* **west-wards** /ˌwestwədz/ *adv* : toward the west • The settlers moved *west-ward*.

— **westward** *adj* • the *westward* expansion of the country

¹**wet** /ˌwet/ *adj* **wet-ter; wet-test**

1 : covered or soaked with water or another liquid : not dry • a pile of *wet* clothes/towels/leaves • Be careful not to slip on the *wet* floor. • My hair is still *wet*. • My shoes got *wet* when I stepped in the puddle. • The grass was *wet* with dew. • His clothes were *dripping/soaking/sopping wet* [=very wet] • (*Brit*) His clothes were *wet through* [=completely/very wet]

2 : having a lot of rain : **RAINY** • a cold, *wet* morning • *wet* climates • It has been a *wet* spring. [=it has rained a lot this spring]

3 *of paint, plaster, etc.* : not yet dry : still moist or sticky • *wet* cement • Don't touch the paint. It's still *wet*.

4 US, informal : allowing alcoholic beverages to be sold or drunk • a *wet state/county*

5 : soaked with urine • *wet diapers* : wearing a diaper that is soaked with urine • The baby is *wet*.

6 Brit, informal + disapproving : lacking strength and determination • The main character is so *wet* [=weak] that it's hard to feel sorry for him.

all wet US, informal : completely wrong : not correct • She told him that his argument was *all wet*. • He's *all wet*.

get your feet wet : to begin doing a new job, activity, etc., in usually a slow and simple way in order to become more familiar with it • She *got her feet wet* at her new job by doing some simple filing tasks.

wet behind the ears informal : young and not experienced • The young reporter was still *wet behind the ears*.

-wet-ly adv -wet-ness noun [noncount] • These plants will tolerate *wetness* and cold temperatures.

2 wet verb wets; wet or wet-ted; wet-ting [+ obj]

1 : to cause (something) to become wet • I *wet/wetted* a sponge under the faucet. • Avoid *wetting* the leaves when you water the plant. • The morning dew had *wet/wetted* his shoes. — often + *down* • In the early evening, she *wets down* the grass with a hose.

2 : to make (a bed or your clothes) wet by urinating • The little boy accidentally *wet his pants*. • Our daughter was still *wetting the bed*. [=was still urinating while sleeping in bed] • I laughed so hard I almost *wet myself*.

wet your whistle see **1 WHISTLE**

3 wet noun, pl wets

1 [count] Brit, informal + disapproving : a person who belongs to the Conservative Party and who has moderate or liberal ideas

2 the wet : rainy weather : RAIN • We stayed out in *the wet* all afternoon.

wet-back /'wet,bæk/ *noun, pl -backs [count] US, offensive* : a Mexican who enters the U.S. illegally ✧ The word *wet-back* is very offensive and should be avoided.

wet bar *noun, pl ~ bars [count] US* : a small counter in a house, hotel room, etc., that contains a sink and that is used for making alcoholic drinks

wet blanket *noun, pl ~ -kets [count] informal* : a person who makes it difficult for other people to enjoy themselves by complaining, by showing no enthusiasm, etc.

wet dream *noun, pl ~ dreams [count]* : a sexual dream that causes a boy or man to have an orgasm while sleeping

wet-land /'wet,lænd/ *noun, pl -lands [count]* : an area of land (such as a marsh or swamp) that is covered with shallow water — usually plural • They want to protect the *wetlands* from developers.

wet nurse *noun, pl ~ nurses [count] old-fashioned* : a woman who cares for and breast-feeds other people's babies as a job

wet suit *noun, pl ~ suits [count]* : a piece of clothing that is made of rubber and that is worn by swimmers, divers, etc., when they are in cold water in order to keep their bodies warm — see picture at SCUBA DIVING

we've /'wi:v/ — used as a contraction of *we have* • *We've* got to go.

1 whack /'wæk/ verb whacks; whacked; whack-ing

1 informal : to hit (someone or something) with great force [+ *obj*] She *whacked* the piñata with a stick. • The old man lifted his cane and *whacked* the mugger on the head. [*no obj*] They were *whacking* through the jungle with their machetes.

2 [+ *obj*] US, informal : to reduce (something) by a large amount : SLASH • Congress *whacked* the budget by 1.5 billion dollars. = Congress *whacked* 1.5 billion dollars from the budget.

3 [+ *obj*] US slang : to murder or kill (someone) • He got *whacked* by mobsters.

2 whack noun, pl whacks informal

1 [count] a : the act of hitting someone or something with great force • She gave him a *whack* on the head. [=she whacked him on the head] • He gave the ball a good *whack*. [=he hit the ball hard] **b** : the sound made when something is hit hard • The pile of books hit the floor with a *whack*.

2 [noncount] Brit : a share or portion of something • I ended up paying *full whack* [=full price] for items that went on sale the next day. • I paid *top whack* [(US) *top dollar*] for these items. [=I paid the highest amount possible] • You need to pay your *fair whack* [=fair share] of the bill.

(all) in one whack US, informal : at one time : in a single

amount • We borrowed \$5,000 *all in one whack*.

have/take a whack at US, informal : to try to do (something) • She *took a whack at* solving the puzzle. • I can't open the jar. Do you want to *take a whack at* it? [=do you want to try to open it?]

out of whack US, informal : not working properly : not in good condition • He threw his knee *out of whack*. [=he injured his knee] • The garage door is still *out of whack*. • Their priorities are (all) *out of whack*. [=they do not understand what things are actually important]

whacked *adj [more ~; most ~] Brit, informal* : extremely tired : EXHAUSTED • I was/felt completely *whacked*.

whacked-out also wacked-out /'wækt,aut/ *adj [more ~; most ~] US slang*

1 : unusual or different in usually an amusing way • a totally *whacked-out* [=wacky] world

2 : acting strangely because of the effects of drugs or alcohol • a *whacked-out* drug dealer — often + *on* • They were *whacked-out* [=stoned] on drugs.

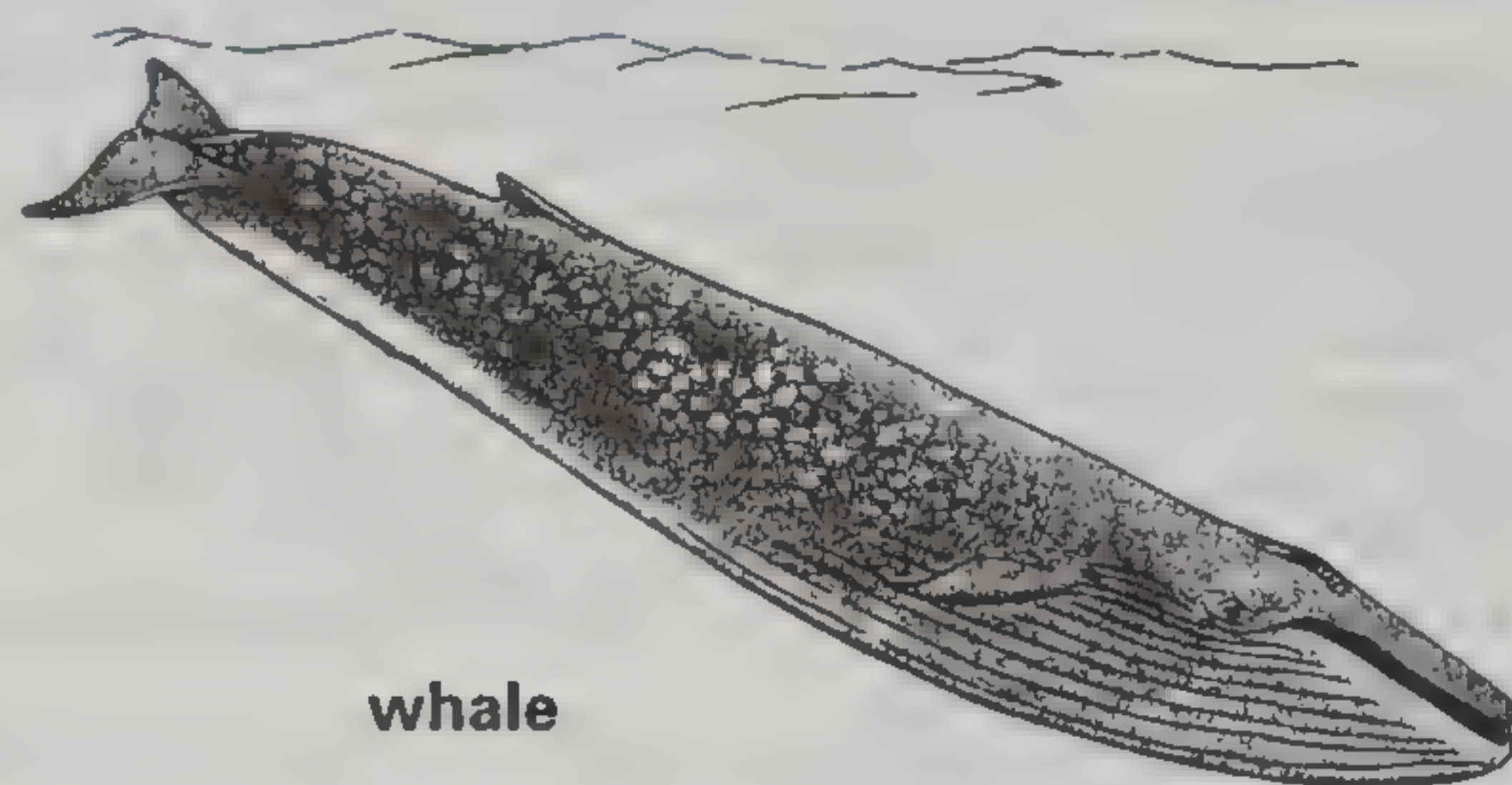
whack-ing /'wækɪŋ/ *adj, Brit, informal* : very large • a *whacking* [=whopping] sum of money

-whacking *adv* • He told a *whacking* [=very] good story. • a *whacking* large income

1 whale /'weɪl/ noun, pl whale or whales

1 [count] : an often very large animal that lives in the ocean and that is a mammal rather than a fish — see also BLUE WHALE, HUMPBACK WHALE, KILLER WHALE, SPERM WHALE

2 [singular] informal : something that is very big, important, good, etc. — + *of* • It became one *whale of* a problem. [=a very big problem] • We had a *whale of a time* [=a great time] at the party.



whale

2 whale verb whales; whaled; whal-ing US, informal

1 [+ *obj*] : to hit (something) with great force and energy • He *whaled* the ball over the fence for a home run.

2 [no *obj*] : to attack or hit someone or something repeatedly — often + *at, into, or on* • She *whaled on* him [=she pounded him] with her fists. • The manager was *whaling into* his employees. [=was angrily criticizing his employees] — often + *away* • The candidates *whaled away at* each other.

whale-bone /'weɪl,boun/ *noun [noncount]* : a hard substance that is found in the jaw of some types of whales

whal-er /'weɪlə/ *noun, pl -ers [count]*

1 : a person who hunts for whales

2 : a ship that is used for hunting whales

whale watch *noun, pl ~ watches [count]* : a trip that people take on a boat in order to see whales coming up to the surface of the water

whal-ing /'weɪlɪŋ/ *noun [noncount]* : the job or business of hunting whales • the *whaling* industry

wham /'wæm/ *interj* — used to imitate the sound of a loud, sudden noise or to say that something happened very quickly • *Wham!* The wind slammed the door shut. • Everything seemed fine and then—*wham!*—all hell broke loose.

wham-my /'wæmi/ *noun, pl -mies [count] informal* : something (such as a magical spell) that causes someone to have bad luck • Talking about his winning streak must have *put the whammy on him* [=caused him to have bad luck], because he lost the next day. — see also DOUBLE WHAMMY

wharf /'wɔːf/ *noun, pl wharves* /'wɔːvz/ *also wharfs [count]* : a flat structure that is built along the shore of a river, ocean, etc., so that ships can load and unload cargo or passengers

1 what /'wɔ:t, 'wʌt/ pronoun

1 a — used to ask for information about someone or something • *What* is your name? • *What* are those things on the table? • *What's* your family like? • *What* happened? • *What* [=how much] does it cost? • "*What* did she say?" "She said yes." • *What* do you think of my idea? • *What* do you want to

do tonight? • “Dad!” “*What* (do you want)?” “You have a phone call.” • *What* (on earth) are you doing?! • I finished dusting. Now *what* (should I do)? • *What* (should I do) next? • *What else* did he say? • You have money, fame, and a beautiful family. *What more* could you want? **b** — used to describe a question • Please ask them *what* they want for dinner. • They asked her *what* she knew about him. • I wonder *what* his motives were.

2 a — used to ask someone to say something again because you have not clearly heard or understood it • *What* did you say? = (informal) *What?* — often used to show surprise about the thing that someone has just said • “And then I said that he could go to hell.” “You said *what*?! ” • She did *what*?! • *What?* I don’t believe it. You must be joking! **b informal** — used to express surprise, excitement, etc. • *What*, no breakfast? • “Have you heard? They won!” “*What*! That’s great!”

3 informal — used to ask what someone’s last name is • “Her name’s Kathy.” “Kathy *what*?”

4 a : that which : the one or ones that • He has no income but *what* he gets from his writing. [=he has no income except for the income he gets from his writing] • “Do you have any other sizes?” “No, only *what* you see here.” **b** : the kind that : the same as • The speech was very much *what* everyone expected. • My memory isn’t *what it used to be*. [=it is not as good as it used to be] **c** : something that • The dog is chewing on *what* appears to be a sock. • It was the beginning of *what* turned out to be a long and successful career. **d** : the thing or things that • *What* you need is a vacation. [=you need a vacation] • *What* made me angry was how he treated you. [=it was the way he treated you that made me angry] • *What* matters most is your safety. = Your safety is *what* matters most. • Romance novels are *what* she enjoys reading. • Do *what* you’re told. • Tell me *what* you’re looking for. • She is looking for something but I don’t know *what*. • He knows *what* he should do. — often followed by *to* + verb • Stop telling me *what to do*. • I don’t know *what to think/say/believe*. • She has (got) *what it takes* [=she has the skills and personality] to do the job. • I’ll do *what it takes* to win. • You’ll never *guess what* happened to me today. [=you’ll be surprised by what happened to me today] ♦ *Guess what* is often used to tell someone that you have surprising news. • *Guess what* happened to me today! • “*Guess what*!” “What?” “I bought a new car.” **e** : anything or everything that : **WHAT-EVER** • Say *what* you will, my opinion won’t change. [=nothing you can say will change my opinion] • Take *what* you need. [=take anything that you need]

5 informal — used to direct attention to something that you are about to say • I’ll tell you *what* I’m going to do: I’m going to let you have it for 30 percent off. • I’ll tell you *what*. If he thinks I’m cleaning up this mess, he’s wrong. • Tell you *what*—let’s eat out tonight. • “It’s not worth the money.” “You know *what*—you’re right.”

or what informal 1 — used to ask about what is happening, being done, etc. • Is it snowing, raining, *or what*? • So are you ready to leave *or what*? **2** — used to ask if someone agrees with you • Is this exciting *or what*? [=isn’t this exciting?; don’t you agree that this is exciting?]

say what see **SAY**

what about 1 a : does that include (someone) : how about (someone) • “We’re all going to the beach.” “*What about* Kenny?” **b** : how does that affect (someone or something) : what should be done about (someone or something) • “I need to leave—something has come up.” “*What about* the meeting?” “We can reschedule it.” • “You can throw this one away.” “*What about* the others?” “Those I want to keep.” • (And/But) *What about* the people who can’t afford health insurance? **2** — used to make a suggestion about what could be done • *What about* [=how about] coming with us? • *What about* driving to the coast for the weekend? • We’ll need to talk about this again. *What about* (meeting) next week? • *What about* another game? [=would you like to play another game?] **3** — used to ask someone to tell you something in response to the thing that you have just said • I like skiing and hiking. *What about you*? [=what sports do you like?] • Everyone else is coming. *What about you*? [=are you coming, too?]

what . . . for : for what purpose or reason • *What* did you do that *for*? [=why did you do that?] • *What* is this switch *for*? [=what does this switch do?] • “The principal wants to see you.” “*What for*?” [=why?] — see also **WHAT FOR**

what have you informal : any of the other things that might also be mentioned • You can use the container to hold paper clips, pins, and/or *what have you*.

what if 1 : what would happen if • *What if* they find out? • *What if* it rains? **2** : what does it matter if — used to say that something is not important • “He’s nice enough, I suppose. But he’s poor.” “*What if* he is poor? I love him!” • “They might find out.” “*So what if* they do? I don’t care.” — see also *so what* at **WHAT**

what of 1 formal : how does that affect (someone or something) : what should be done about (someone or something) • *What of* [=what about] those who cannot afford health insurance? **2** : why does (something) matter • “Did you approve this request?” “Yes. *What of it*?” [=so what?]

what’s it to you? informal : why do you want to know — used to respond in a somewhat angry or annoyed way to a question that you do not want to answer • “How much do they pay you?” “Why? *What’s it to you*?”

what’s more : in addition : **FURTHERMORE** • Her boyfriend is intelligent and handsome; *what’s more*, he respects her.

what’s up? US, informal — used as a friendly greeting • “Hi, Jim. *What’s up*?” “Not much.”

what’s what informal : the true state of things : the things that need to be known or understood in order to make good judgments, decisions, etc. • She knows *what’s what* when it comes to fashion. [=she knows a lot about fashion] • We need to find out *what’s what*.

what’s with or what’s up with informal 1 : what is the reason for (something) • (So) *what’s with* the hat? [=why are you wearing that hat?] • He told me to go away. *What’s up with that*? [=why did he do that?] **2** : what is wrong with (someone or something) • *What’s with* him? • *What’s up with you*? You look upset. • I can’t figure out *what’s up with* this computer.

2 what adj, always used before a noun

1 — used to ask someone to indicate the identity or nature of someone or something • *What* fool told you that? • *What* book did you read? • *What* news have you heard from him? • In *what* way are these two stories the same? • We won the war, but *at what price*? [=did we lose or give up too much in order to win the war?]

2 — used to say that someone or something is remarkable for having good or bad qualities • *What* a good idea! • *What* mountains! • Remember *what* fun we had? • *What* a horrible movie! • *What* a beautiful child.

3 — used to refer to an amount that someone has, uses, etc. • She gave *what* money she had [=she gave all the money she had] to the homeless man. • Give *what* excuses you will—it makes no difference. [=no excuses that you may give will make any difference] • He soon gambled away *what* (little) money he had left. • We spent *what* (little) time remained chatting.

3 what adv : in what way • *What* [=how] does it matter? • *What* does she care? [=why is it important to her?]

so what informal — used to say that something said or done is not important • She has a glass of wine now and then—*so what*?

what with — used to introduce the part of a sentence that indicates the cause of something • *What with* the freezing temperatures, they nearly died. • *What with* school and sports, she’s always busy. • Things have been difficult for him lately, *what with* his wife’s illness and all.

what all pronoun, informal : **WHATNOT**

what·cha·ma·call·it /wɑːtʃəməˈkɑːlət, ˈwɑːtʃəməˈkɑːlət/ noun, pl -its [count] **US, informal** : something whose name you have forgotten or do not know : **THINGAMAJIG** • I can’t find the *whatchamacallit* that holds the door open.

1 what·ev·er /wɑtˈɛvə, wɑtˈɛvə/ pronoun

1 : anything or everything that • Say *whatever* you want, my opinion won’t change. [=nothing you can say will change my opinion] • Take *whatever* you need.

2 : no matter what : regardless of what • *Whatever* he says, don’t believe him. [=do not believe him at all] • “What’s that smell?” “I don’t know, but *whatever* it is, it’s awful!” • *Whatever you do*, don’t press that button!

3 — used in questions that express surprise or confusion • *Whatever* made you do something as foolish as that? • *Whatever* did she mean (by that)?

4 informal : **WHATNOT** • I enjoy all kinds of sports—skiing, biking, (or) *whatever*.

2 whatever adj

1 always used before a noun a : all the • Take *whatever* supplies you need. [=take any supplies that you need] **b** : any • She will buy the painting at *whatever* price. : any . . . that • We are willing to take *whatever* action is needed. [=to take

any action that is needed] **c** — used to refer to something that is not known • For *whatever* reason, he refused to speak to us. [=he refused to speak to us for some reason that we don't know]

2 *not used before a noun* : of any kind or amount at all : **WHATSOEVER** • There's no food *whatever*. • There's no evidence *whatever* to support your theory.

3 *whatever* *adv, informal* — used to show that something said or done is not important • “Jen forgot to print out extra copies.” “You mean Jean.” “*Whatever*—you know who I mean.” • We could go see a movie, watch TV—*whatever*. [=it makes no difference to me what we do]

what for *noun* [*noncount*] *informal* + *somewhat old-fashioned* : harsh words or punishment • Just wait until he gets home. I'll give him *what for*. — see also *what...for* at ¹WHAT

what-if /ˈwɑːtɪf, ˈwɑːtɪf/ *noun, pl -ifs* [*count*] : a question that asks someone to imagine what might happen or what might have happened • Life is full of *what-ifs*. • He started thinking about the *what-ifs* of the game: What if we had thrown more passes? What if we hadn't missed that field goal?

what-not /ˈwɑːt, nɑːt, ˈwɑːt, nɑːt/ *pronoun, informal* : any of the other things that might also be mentioned • You can use the container to hold paper clips, pins, and/or *whatnot*.

what's-her-name *also* **US** **what's-her-face** *noun* [*singular*] *informal* : a woman whose name you have forgotten or do not know • I just bumped into *what's-her-name* from the bank.

what's-his-name *also* **US** **what's-his-face** *noun* [*singular*] *informal* : a man whose name you have forgotten or do not know • I think she's still dating *what's-his-name*.

what-sit /ˈwɑːtsət, ˈwɑːtsət/ *also* **US** **what-sis** /ˈwɑːtsəs, ˈwɑːtsəs/ *noun, pl -sits* *also* **US** **-sis-es** [*count*] *informal* : something whose name you have forgotten or do not know : **THINGAMAJIG** • a little rubber *whatsit*

what-so-ev-er /ˈwɑːtsəˈwɛvə, ˈwɑːtsəˈwɛvə/ *adj, not used before a noun* : of any kind or amount at all • There's no evidence *whatsoever* [=whatever] to support your theory. • She'll use any means *whatsoever* to achieve her goals. • His remark had nothing *whatsoever* to do with you. • “Is there any reason to wait?” “None *whatsoever*.”

wheat /ˈwiːt/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : a kind of grain that is used to make flour for breads, cookies, etc. — see also **SHREDDED WHEAT**, **WHOLE WHEAT**
2 **US** : bread that is made from wheat flour • a turkey sandwich on *wheat*

separate the wheat from the chaff see ²SEPARATE

wheat germ *noun* [*noncount*] : the center part of a grain of wheat which is eaten often as a source of vitamins and protein

whee /ˈwiː/ *interj* — used to express enjoyment especially by children • The girl yelled “*Whee!*” as she went down the slide.

whee-dle /ˈwiːdl/ *verb* **whee-dles; whee-dled; wheedling** *often disapproving* : to persuade someone to do something or to give you something by saying nice things [+ *obj*] • He *wheedled* quite a bit of money from her. • We managed to *wheedle* [=coax] the juicy details out of him. — often + *into* • She tried to *wheedle* us *into* spending more money than we wanted. • He *wheedled* his way *into* his current job. [*no obj*] • She pleaded and *wheedled*, but I wouldn't be swayed.

¹**wheel** /ˈwiːl/ *noun, pl wheels*

1 [*count*] **a** : one of the round parts underneath a car, wagon, etc., that rolls and allows something to move • The car's rear *wheels* started to spin on the icy road. • the *wheels* of a train/airplane • a bicycle *wheel* • a suitcase with *wheels* on the bottom — see also **TRAINING WHEELS** **b** : a hard, round object that turns and causes machinery or a mechanical device to move — sometimes used figuratively • You could almost see the *wheels* turning in his head. [=you could almost see him thinking about how to do something] — see also **FLYWHEEL**, **PADDLE WHEEL**, **WATERWHEEL**

2 [*count*] : **STEERING WHEEL** • She fell asleep *at the wheel* [=she fell asleep while she was driving] • He got *behind the wheel* [=he sat in the driver's seat] and sped off. • I was nervous my first time *behind the wheel*. [=my first time driving a car] • My sister offered to *take the wheel* [=offered to drive]

3 [*count*] : something that is round like a wheel or that turns like a wheel • a *wheel* of cheddar cheese — see also **CARTWHEEL**, **FERRIS WHEEL**, **PINWHEEL**, **POTTER'S WHEEL**, **PRAYER WHEEL**, **SPINNING WHEEL**

4 [*count*] **a** : an essential or functioning part of an organiza-

tion, process, etc. — usually plural • the *wheels* of government • They hoped that the tax cuts would *grease the wheels* of the economy. [=would help the economy work better] • With today's announcement, she has *set the wheels in motion* for a run for the presidency. [=she has begun to run for president] **b** *informal* : an important person in an organization • He's a *big wheel* [=bigwig] at the company.

5 *wheels* [*plural*] *slang* : **CAR** • I couldn't get around easily without my *wheels*. • She has a nice *set of wheels* [=she has a nice car]

a/the squeaky wheel gets the grease/oil — used to say that someone who complains or causes problems is more likely to receive attention or help than someone who stays quiet and does not cause problems

reinvent the wheel see **REINVENT**

spin your wheels see ¹SPIN

wheels come/fall off *informal* ♦ If the *wheels come/fall off*, someone or something fails in a sudden or unexpected way. • The pitcher was doing well for the first four innings, then *the wheels fell off* in the fifth.

wheels within wheels : a situation that is complex and difficult to deal with because it involves many different things • The problem seems simple at first, but there are *wheels within wheels*.

²**wheel** *verb* **wheels; wheeled; wheel-ing**

1 [+ *obj*] **a** : to move (someone or something) on a vehicle that has wheels • Doctors *wheeled* the patient into the operating room. — sometimes used figuratively • Management *wheeled in* the experts [=management hired a group of experts] to study the matter further. **b** : to push (something) that has wheels on it • He *wheeled* his motorcycle into the garage. • Our waiter *wheeled out* a small dessert cart. — sometimes used figuratively • She *wheeled out* [=offered] the same old excuse for being late.

2 [*no obj*] : to turn quickly and face a different direction • She *wheeled* around in her chair when I entered the room.

3 [*no obj*] : to move in a circle or curve • Seagulls *wheeled* overhead.

wheel and deal : to make deals or agreements in business or politics in a skillful and sometimes dishonest way • There was a lot of *wheeling and dealing* going on at the convention. — see also **WHEELER-DEALER**

wheel-bar-row /ˈwiːl,berou/ *noun, pl -rows* [*count*] : a cart with two handles, a large bowl, and usually one wheel that is used for carrying heavy loads of dirt, rocks, etc. — called also *barrow*

wheel-chair /ˈwiːl,tʃeə/ *noun, pl -chairs* [*count*] : a chair with wheels that is used by people who cannot walk because they are disabled, sick, or injured • He was in a *wheelchair* for several months after the accident. • an entrance with *wheelchair access* [=an entrance that can be used by people in wheelchairs] — see picture at **HOSPITAL**

wheel clamp *noun, pl ~ clamps* [*count*] **Brit** : **DENVER BOOT**

wheeled /ˈwiːld/ *adj*

1 : having wheels • a *wheeled* vehicle

2 : having a specified number of wheels — used in combination • a *four-wheeled* vehicle

wheel-er /ˈwiːlə/ *noun, pl -ers* [*count*] : a vehicle that has a specified number of wheels — used in combination • an *18-wheeler* [=a large truck with 18 wheels] • a *two-wheeler* [=a bicycle that has two wheels]

wheel-er-deal-er /ˈwiːləˈdiːlə/ *noun, pl -ers* [*count*] *informal* : a person who makes deals in business or politics in a skillful and sometimes dishonest way • a *political wheeler-dealer* — see also *wheel and deal* at ²WHEEL

wheel-house /ˈwiːl,haus/ *noun, pl -houses* [*count*] : an enclosed area on a boat or ship where a person stands to steer

wheel-ie /ˈwiːli/ *noun, pl wheel-ies* [*count*] : an action in which a bicycle, motorcycle, etc. is balanced for a short time on its rear wheel • He did a *wheelie* on his bike.

wheelie bin *noun, pl ~ bins* [*count*] **Brit** : a large container with wheels that is used for holding trash

¹**wheeze** /ˈwiːz/ *verb* **wheez-es; wheezed; wheez-ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to breathe loudly and with difficulty • He was up all night hacking and *wheezing*.

2 : to make a sound like a person who is breathing with difficulty • The car's motor *wheezed* and stalled.

²**wheeze** *noun, pl wheezes* [*count*]

1 : the sound made by a person who is having difficulty

breathing or a similar sound : the sound of wheezing • Between gasps and wheezes, he tried to explain what had happened. • the wheeze of an engine

2 *Brit, informal* : a clever idea or joke • We can count on him for a good wheeze.

— **wheezy** /'wi:zi/ *adj* wheez-i-er; -est • a wheezy cough

whelk /'welk/ *noun, pl whelk* [count] : a large snail that lives in the ocean

¹whelp /'welp/ *noun, pl whelps* [count] *old-fashioned* : a young animal; *especially* : a young dog

²whelp *verb whelps; whelped; whelp-ing* [no obj] *of a female animal* : to give birth • The dog whelped in March.

¹when /'wen/ *adv*

1 : at what time • When will you return? • When did the American Civil War begin? • The detective asked me when I last saw her. • When is the next performance? • (Do you) remember when that happened?

2 a : at, in, or during which • It was a time when people didn't have to lock their doors. • the happy days when we were together **b** : at or during which time • We're still waiting for the test results, when we'll decide our next move.

3 informal : at a former and usually less successful time • I can say I *knew you when*. [=I knew you before you were famous or successful]

²when *conj*

1 a : at or during the time that • We went fishing when [=while] we were on vacation. • I'll leave when you do. [=I'll leave at the same time as you] • When he finally showed up, he was drunk. • When I was in school, we didn't have computers. **b** : just after the time that • You can go when the bell rings. • Call me when you get home. • Things were better when he got a job. **c** : at any or every time that • I cry when [=whenever] I hear that song. • When he watches television, he falls asleep.

2 a — used to say what happens, is true, or can be done in a particular situation • When you have no family, you are really on your own. • We take the bus to school when it rains. • A contestant is disqualified when she disobeys the rules. • When and if he comes, you can ask him. = *If and when* he comes, you can ask him. **b** — used to ask why or how something is done in the situation that exists • Why buy a newspaper when you can read the news online for free? • How can he buy the house when he has no money? [=he has no money, so how can he buy the house?]

3 : in spite of the fact that : **ALTHOUGH** • She quit politics when she might have had a great career in it.

4 : the time or occasion at or in which • Tomorrow is when we must decide.

³when *pronoun* : what or which time • He retired in 1998, since when he has been devoting his time to gardening. • You need the report by when?

since when? see ¹SINCE

whence /'wens/ *adv, old-fashioned + literary* : from where • They returned to the land whence they came. • Whence the source of this tradition? [=where does this tradition come from?] — often + *from* • They returned to the land from whence they came.

¹when-ever /we'nevə/ *conj* : at any or every time that • You may leave whenever you wish. • Whenever he leaves the house he always takes an umbrella. • The teacher welcomes originality whenever it is shown. • We'll begin the meeting whenever the boss gets here.

²whenever *adv* : at any time : at whatever time • You can come tomorrow or whenever.

¹where /'weə/ *adv*

1 a : at or in what place • Where are my keys? • Where did you meet her? • Where did you hear that? • Where can I find books about gardening? • Where are you from? • I don't know where that came from. — sometimes + *at* in very informal speech • Where's the party at? **b** : to what place • Where are we going? • Where is she taking us? • Do you know where we're going? — often + *to* • Where are we going to? • Where to, Miss? [=what place do you want to go to?]

2 : when or at what point • Where does the story get interesting?

3 : how or in what way • Where am I wrong? • Where do the two candidates disagree on the issue?

4 : to what goal or result • Where will this course of action lead us?

where it's at informal **1** : the best or most exciting or interesting place to be • Los Angeles, California, is where it's at if you want to get into the film industry. **2** : a subject, field

of interest, etc., that is very popular or important • Education is where it's at in politics.

where (someone) is at informal : someone's true position, state, or nature • I haven't quite figured out where she's at [=where she stands; what her opinions are] on that issue.

²where *conj*

1 a : at or in the place that • Please stay where you are. • We sat down where there was some shade. • He put the note where she could easily see it. **b** : to or in what place • He doesn't know where he is going. • It doesn't matter to me where we eat. — often followed by *to* + *verb* • She didn't know where to go. • He tells me where to shop for the best bargains. **c** : the place that • We could see the players very clearly from where we sat. • I know where their house is. **d** : that is the place in which • The town where we live is having an arts and crafts fair. • This is the room where the children sleep. • The store where we shop is closing.

2 : to or in whatever place : **WHEREVER** • I can go where I want, when I want. • People may sit where they like.

3 a — used to refer to a particular point in a story, process, etc. • My favorite part is toward the end of the book, where the heroine returns home. • The town has reached the size where traffic is a problem. • The project is at a point where the end is in sight. **b** — used to refer to a particular part of what is being discussed • That's where you're wrong. • Where the two candidates differ is in how to reform health care.

4 : in a situation in which • We must be especially careful where children are concerned. • Where most people saw a worthless investment, she saw opportunity.

¹whereabouts /'weə,bauts/ *adv* : near what place • Whereabouts [=where] does he live? • Whereabouts did you park the car?

²whereabouts *noun* [plural] : the location of a person or thing • Do you know their whereabouts? — used with both singular and plural verbs • Her present whereabouts are/is unknown.

where-as /weə'æz/ *conj*

1 — used to make a statement that describes how two people, groups, etc., are different • Some of these species have flourished, whereas others have struggled. • Whereas many people have supported the proposal, others have opposed it very strongly. • He has brown eyes whereas his children have green eyes.

2 law : since it is true that — usually used at the beginning of a statement in an official document • Whereas the citizens of the state of Virginia have a right to know that . . .

where-by /weə'baɪ/ *conj* : by which : according to which • They created a program whereby single parents could receive greater financial aid. [=a program that would allow single parents to receive greater financial aid]

where-fore /'weə,foə/ *adv* — used in the past to mean "why" • "Wherefore art thou Romeo?" [=why are you Romeo?] — Shakespeare, *Romeo and Juliet* (1594–95)

the whys and (the) wherefores see ³WHY

¹where-in /weə'in/ *adv, formal* : in what way • Wherein was I wrong? : in what • Wherein lies the secret to the company's success?

²wherein *conj, formal*

1 a : in which : **WHERE** • the city wherein he lives **b** : during which • There was a period in her life wherein she took no active part in politics.

2 : in what way : **HOW** • He showed me wherein I was wrong.

where-of /weə'ʌv, weə'a:v/ *conj, formal + old-fashioned* : of what • I know whereof I speak. [=I know about the subject I'm speaking about]

where-up-on /'weə,pa:n/ *conj, formal* : at which time — used to say that something happens directly after something else and often as a result of it • He graduated from high school in 1986, whereupon he immediately joined the navy.

¹wher-ever /weə'evə/ *adv*

1 : in what place : **WHERE** — used in questions that express surprise or confusion • Wherever [=where on earth; where in the world] have you been? • Wherever did you get that hat? • Wherever did I put my keys?

2 : in, at, or to any place • "Where should I put this?" "Oh, just put it wherever." [=anywhere] • We can go to the park, the beach, (or) wherever.

²wherever *conj*

1 : at, in, or to any place that • We can have lunch wherever [=anywhere] you like. • Bodyguards follow the singer wherever [=everywhere] she goes.

2 : in any situation in which : at any time that • Wherever

[=whenever] (it is) possible, I try to help out.

wherever that may be or wherever that is — used to say that you do not know where a place is • She's from Jefferson City, *wherever that may be*.

where-with-al /'weəwɪ,ðɑ:l, 'weəwɪ,θɑ:l/ *noun* [noncount] : the money, skill, etc., that is needed to get or do something • A project as big as this requires a lot of financial *wherewithal*. • He doesn't have the *wherewithal* to finish what he started.

whet /'wet/ *verb* **whets; whet-ted; whet-ting** [+ *obj*] : to make (something, such as a person's appetite or curiosity) sharper or stronger • We had some wine to *whet* our appetites. • You've *whetted* my curiosity. • The ads are trying to *whet* booksellers' interest.

wheth-er /'weðə/ *conj*

1 a : if it is or was true that • Did you ask *whether* [=if] they were going? • I don't know *whether* they were invited. **b** : if it is or was better • She was uncertain *whether* to go or stay.

2 — used to indicate choices or possibilities • *Whether* we succeed or fail, we must try. • It doesn't matter *whether* you pay by cash or check. • We're going *whether or not* you decide to come along. = *Whether or not* you decide to come along, we're going. [=we're going if you decide to come with us and we're going if you decide not to come with us] • I had to decide *whether or not* to respond to his letter. • The police are investigating *whether (or not)* the death was a homicide. • The game will be played *whether* it rains or not.

whet-stone /'wet,stoun/ *noun, pl -stones* [count] : a stone used for sharpening knives, blades, etc.

whew /ə 'whɪstlɪŋ saʊnd, often read as 'hwu:, 'hju:/ *interj* — used to indicate that you are surprised, relieved, or hot • "Whew! I'm glad that's over." • "Whew! It's hot in here."

whew /'wei/ *noun* [noncount] : the watery part of milk that forms after the milk becomes thick and sour • The curd has separated from the *whey*.

¹which /'wɪtʃ/ *adj* : what one or ones of a group : what particular one or ones — used to indicate what is being shown, pointed to, or mentioned • He knew *which* people had paid and *which* hadn't. • *Which* tie should I wear, the red one or the green one? • *Which* way should we turn at the stoplight? • Choose *which* style you like best.

every which way see EVERY

²which *pronoun*

1 : what one or ones out of a group — used to indicate or ask what is being shown, pointed to, or mentioned • They are either swimming or canoeing, I don't know *which*. • They could not decide *which* of the two roads to take. • *Which* of those houses do you live in? • *Which* of you want tea and *which* want lemonade?

2 a — used to introduce an additional statement about something that has already been mentioned • She plays squash, *which* is a sport similar to racquetball. • Our new car, *which* we bought last month, seats five people. **b** — used after a preposition to refer again to something that has already been mentioned • She again demonstrated the qualities for *which* she is admired by so many people. • The exhibit is on view here for three months, after *which* it travels to another city. **c** — used to introduce a group of words that limits the meaning of a noun to a specific place or thing • This is a matter *which* [=that] requires further study.

which is which — used to say that you are unsure about the identity of each member of a group • The two words sound alike, so it's hard to remember *which is which*. • One of the twins is named John and the other William, but *which is which*?

¹which-ev-er /wɪtʃ'evə/ *pronoun* : whatever one or ones out of a group • We can go on Tuesday or Friday, *whichever* you prefer. • You may leave at 4:00 or when you've finished the job, *whichever* comes first.

²whichever *adj* : whatever one or ones out of a group • Choose *whichever* one you want. • It's the same distance *whichever* [=no matter which] way you go. • He will support *whichever* candidate wins.

¹whiff /'wɪf/ *noun, pl whiffs*

1 [count] : a slight smell of something : an odor that is weak • I got/caught a *whiff* of new paint when I entered the room. • a *whiff* of perfume

2 [singular] : a slight trace or indication • The incident had a *whiff* [=hint] of scandal about it. • I detected a *whiff* of sarcasm in her voice.

3 [count] *baseball, informal* : STRIKEOUT • The pitcher had eight *whiffs* during the game.

²whiff *verb* **whiffs; whiffed; whiff-ing** *US, informal*

1 [+ *obj*] : to notice (a smell) • He *whiffed* a strong odor of perfume.

2 *baseball* **a** [+ *obj*] *of a pitcher* : to cause (a batter) to be out by pitching three strikes • The pitcher *whiffed* [=struck out] three batters in a row. **b** [no *obj*] *of a batter* : to make an out by getting three strikes • The batter *whiffed* [=struck out] twice during the game.

3 : to fail to hit (something) [+ *obj*] The golfer nearly *whiffed* the shot. [no *obj*] The golfer nearly *whiffed* on the shot.

whif-fy /'wɪfi/ *adj* **whiff-i-er; -est** *Brit, informal* : having a bad smell • Old cheese is often a bit *whiffy*. • *whiffy* [=smelly] old socks

Whig /'wɪɡ/ *noun, pl Whigs* [count]

1 : a member or supporter of a British political group of the 18th and early 19th centuries that wanted to decrease royal power and to increase the power of the British Parliament

2 : an American who supported independence from Great Britain during the American Revolution

3 : a member or supporter of an American political party of the 19th century that was formed to oppose the Democrats

¹while /'waɪəl/ *conj*

1 : during the time that • Someone called *while* you were out. • You can get the photos developed *while* you wait. • The phone rang *while* I was doing the dishes. • They met *while* they were in college. • We should enjoy this good weather *while* it lasts. = We should enjoy this good weather *while* we can. • Can I get you anything *while* I'm at the store?

2 — used to make a statement that describes how two people, groups, etc., are different • *While* some people think his comedy is funny, others find him offensive.

3 : in spite of the fact that : ALTHOUGH • *While* (he is) respected, the mayor is not liked. • He made a comment that, *while* well-intentioned, still hurt my feelings. • *While* I think some parts of the plan are good, I don't think it's practical.

²while *noun* [singular] : a period of time • It took them *a while* to find out what was causing the problem. • Why don't we stay here (for) *a while*? • It has been *quite a while* since I last saw her. = I haven't seen her *for a (good) long while*. [=for a long time] • He claimed that he was happy, but he was thinking *all the while* [=during that entire time] of quitting his job. *once in a while* see ¹ONCE

worth your while : worth doing : interesting or rewarding • If you help me I'll *make it worth your while*. [=I'll make it worthwhile for you; I'll reward you for helping me] • It would be *worth your while* to study the material again before the test. — see also WORTHWHILE

³while *verb* **whiles; whiled; whil-ing**

while away [phrasal verb] **while away (time) or while (time) away** : to spend (time) doing something pleasant and easy • We *whiled away* the afternoon with a walk around the garden. • They *whiled* the hours *away* telling jokes and stories.

whilst /'waɪəlst/ *conj, chiefly Brit, formal* : ¹WHILE

whim /'wɪm/ *noun, pl whims* [count] : a sudden wish, desire, decision, etc. • the *whims* of fashion • It's hard to predict voters' *whims*. • Her husband tries to *satisfy her every whim*. [=make her happy by doing everything that she wants] • He quit his job *on a whim*. [=because of a sudden decision] • The shop is only open *at the whim* of the owner. [=the shop is only open when the owner wants it to be open]

¹whim-per /'wɪmpə/ *verb -pers; -pered; -per-ing*

1 [no *obj*] : to make a quiet crying sound • I could hear the puppy *whimpering*.

2 : to complain in a weak or annoying way [no *obj*] She *whimpered* about having to get up early. [+ *obj*] "Where are you going?" she *whimpered*.

²whimper *noun, pl -pers* [count]

1 : a quiet crying sound • I could hear the puppy's *whimpers*.

2 : a mild expression of complaint or protest • The new law was passed, despite a few *whimpers* [=objections] from the opposition. • She accepted their decision *without a whimper*. [=without complaining]

whim-si-cal /'wɪmzɪkəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : unusual in a playful or amusing way : not serious • *whimsical* behavior • *whimsical* decorations • She has a *whimsical* sense of humor. — **whim-si-cal-ly** /'wɪmzɪkli/ *adv* • The streets in the village are *whimsically* named.

whim-sy also *US* **whim-sey** /'wɪmzi/ *noun* [noncount] : a playful or amusing quality : a sense of humor or playfulness • The designer's new line showed a touch of *whimsy*. • a bit of decorative *whimsy*

¹whine /'waɪn/ *verb* **whines; whined; whin-ing**

1 : to complain in an annoying way [*no obj*] He's always *whining* about the weather. • Quit *whining* and finish your dinner. [*+ obj*] "I want to leave now," she *whined*. • The workers were *whining* that the office was too cold/hot.

2 [*no obj*] **a** : to make a high, crying sound • The dog was *whining* because it wanted to go out. **b** : to make a high and unpleasant sound that continues for a long time • The electric saw *whined* as it cut through the wood.

— **whin-er** *noun*, *pl* -ers [*count*] • They're all a bunch of *whiners*. — **whiny** or **whin-ey** /'waini/ *adj* **whin-i-er**; -est [*also more ~; most ~*] • a *whiny* child • I'm sick of his *whiny* complaints. • a *whiny* voice

2 **whine** *noun*, *pl* **whines** [*count*] : a high and unpleasant sound that continues for a long time • the *whine* of a jet engine

whinge /'wɪndʒ/ *verb* **whing-es**; **whinged**; **whing-ing** or **whinge-ing** [*no obj*] *Brit, informal* : to complain in an annoying way : **WHINE** • Quit *whinging* and get on with the job. • People were *whinging* about the lack of service.

— **whing-er** *noun*, *pl* -gers [*count*]

whin-ny /'wɪni/ *verb* -nies; -nied; -ny-ing [*no obj*] of a horse : to make a gentle, high sound • I heard the horse *whinnying*. — compare **NEIGH**

— **whinny** *noun*, *pl* -nies [*count*] • We heard a *whinny* come from the stable.

1 **whip** /'wɪp/ *noun*, *pl* **whips**

1 [*count*] : a long, thin piece of leather or similar material that is attached to a handle and that is used for hitting a person as punishment or to hit an animal (such as a horse) to make it move faster • The rider cracked his *whip* and the horse began to run.

2 [*count*] : a member of a legislature (such as the U.S. Congress or the British Parliament) who is appointed by a political party to make sure that other members are present when votes are taken and that they do the things that they are expected to do • the Republican/Democratic/Labour *whip*

3 [*count, noncount*] : a light dessert made by mixing together sweet ingredients • a *prune whip*

a *fair crack of the whip* see **2** **CRACK**

crack the whip see **1** **CRACK**

2 **whip** *verb* **whips**; **whipped**; **whip-ping**

1 [*+ obj*] : to hit (a person or animal) with a whip or with something that is like a whip • The sailor was *whipped* [=flogged] for disobeying orders. • The jockey *whipped* his horse. — see also **PISTOL-WHIP**

2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*+ obj*] : to move (something) to a different position or remove (something) from a place quickly and forcefully • The riders were getting *whipped* around on the roller coaster. • He suddenly *whipped* out a gun. • He *whipped* off his jacket.

3 **a** *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to move quickly or forcefully • The flag was *whipping* in the strong wind. • A small branch *whipped* back and hit him. **b** [*+ obj*] : to cause (something) to move quickly or forcefully • The wind *whipped* the ship's sails. **c** [*+ obj*] *sports* : to cause (something, such as a ball or puck) to go somewhere quickly and forcefully by throwing it, passing it, etc. • The shortstop *whipped* the ball to first base. • The winger *whipped* a pass toward the net.

4 [*+ obj*] **a** : to hit (something) forcefully • Rain *whipped* the pavement. **b** : to cause (something) to hit something forcefully • The wind *whipped* her hair across her face.

5 [*+ obj*] *informal* : to defeat (someone) easily • He always *whips* me at tennis. • The team got *whipped* in the play-offs.

6 [*+ obj*] : to mix or beat a food (such as cream or an egg) very quickly • She *whipped* the cream. • *whipped* butter/potatoes

7 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to go very quickly • The taxi *whipped* past me without stopping.

whip into [*phrasal verb*] **whip** (someone) *into* (something) : to cause (a group of people) to be in (a state of excitement, anger, etc.) • The speaker *whipped* the crowd *into* a frenzy.

whip through [*phrasal verb*] **whip through** (something) *informal* : to do (something) very quickly • She *whipped through* her chores.

whip together [*phrasal verb*] **whip** (something) *together* or **whip together** (something) *informal* : to produce or prepare (something) very quickly • She *whipped together* a quick lunch. • They had little time to *whip* a plan *together*.

whip up [*phrasal verb*] **1** **whip** (someone or something) *up* or **whip up** (someone or something) : to excite (someone

or something) : to cause (someone or something) to feel strong emotions about something • His speech *whipped up* the crowd. **2** **whip** (something) *up* or **whip up** (something) *informal* **a** : to cause or create (something) • She was trying to *whip up* some enthusiasm. • His remarks *whipped up* a controversy. **b** : to produce or prepare (a meal) very quickly • I can *whip* a meal *up* in no time. • Would you like me to *whip up* a snack?

whip hand *noun*

the whip hand : the position of having power or being in control in a particular situation • The owners of the company *had/held the whip hand* in the negotiations.

whip-lash /'wɪp,læʃ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : an injury to the neck that is caused by a sudden backward movement of the head • He got/suffered *whiplash* when his car was rear-ended.

whip-per-snap-per /'wɪpə,snæpə/ *noun*, *pl* -pers [*count*] *informal + old-fashioned* : a young person who annoys older people by being very confident and acting like someone important • a young *whippersnapper*

whip-pet /'wɪpət/ *noun*, *pl* -pets [*count*] : a small, fast dog that is used for racing

whipping *noun*, *pl* -pings [*count*] : the act of hitting someone with a whip • They threatened to give him a *whipping*. [=they threatened to whip him]

whipping boy *noun*, *pl* ~ **boys** [*count*] : someone or something that often is blamed for problems caused by other people • The coach has become the *whipping boy* [=scapegoat] for all of the team's problems.

whipping cream *noun* [*noncount*] : a kind of cream that becomes thicker when it is stirred or beaten very quickly

whip-poor-will /'wɪpə,wɪl/ *noun*, *pl* -wills [*count*] : a bird of eastern North America that is active at night and has a loud call which sounds like its name

whip-round /'wɪp,raʊnd/ *noun*, *pl* -rounds [*count*] *Brit, informal* : a collection of money from a group of people that is used to pay for something, buy a gift, make a donation, etc. • We had a *whip-round* at the office to buy our secretary a retirement present.

whir *also* **whirr** /'wɜː/ *noun*, *pl* **whirs** *also* **whirrs** [*count*] : the sound made by something that is spinning very fast • the *whir* of a fan

— **whir** *also* **whirr** *verb* **whirs** *also* **whirrs**; **whirred**; **whirring** [*no obj*] • I could hear the engine *whirring*. • The fan made a *whirring* sound.

1 **whirl** /'wɜːrəl/ *verb* **whirls**; **whirled**; **whirl-ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to move or go in a circle or curve especially with force or speed • The cars were *whirling* around the track.

2 **a** : to turn rapidly in circles : **SPIN** [*no obj*] Clothes were *whirling* in the washing machine. • *whirling* [=swirling] winds • The water *whirled* around the drain. [*+ obj*] Her dance partner *whirled* her around. **b** [*no obj*] : to turn quickly and suddenly • She *whirled* [=wheeled] around in surprise.

3 [*no obj*] : to be dizzy or confused • My head was *whirling*. [=reeling, spinning]

2 **whirl** *noun*, *pl* **whirls**

1 [*count*] **a** : a fast turning movement • He give the crank a *whirl*. [=he turned the crank quickly] **b** : something that is turning quickly in circles • a *whirl* of dust • *whirls* of smoke

2 [*singular*] : a state of busy movement or activity • a *whirl* [=bustle] of activity • She's trying to avoid getting caught up in *the social whirl* [=busy social activity]

3 [*singular*] : a dizzy or confused mental state • My head was *in a whirl*

give (something) *a whirl* *informal* : to attempt or try (something) • He thought he'd *give* acting *a whirl*. [=he thought he'd try acting; he thought he'd try to become an actor]

whirl-i-gig /'wɜːlɪ,gɪg/ *noun*, *pl* -gigs [*count*] *old-fashioned*

1 : a child's toy that spins rapidly

2 : **MERRY-GO-ROUND 1** — often used figuratively • the *whirligig* of time • The movie's ending is an emotional *whirligig*.

whirl-pool /'wɜːrəl,puːl/ *noun*, *pl* -pools [*count*]

1 : an area of water in a river, stream, etc., that moves very fast in a circle • The swimmer was caught in a *whirlpool* and nearly drowned. — often used figuratively • She has experienced a *whirlpool* of emotions. [=a confusing mixture of emotions]

2 : **WHIRLPOOL BATH**

whirlpool bath *noun*, *pl* ~ **baths** [*count*] : a bath in which

water moves around in strong currents to massage a person's body

¹whirlwind /'wɜːl,wɪnd/ *noun, pl -winds*

1 [count] : a very strong wind that moves in a spinning or swirling motion and that can damage buildings, trees, etc.

2 [singular] : something that involves many quickly changing events, feelings, etc. • My life has been a *whirlwind* lately. • He attended a *whirlwind* of meetings. • an emotional *whirlwind* = a *whirlwind* of emotions

²whirlwind *adj.* *always used before a noun* : happening or done very quickly • The band went on a *whirlwind* concert tour. • They were married after a *whirlwind* romance. • We continued on at a *whirlwind* pace.

whirlybird /'wɜːli,bɜːd/ *noun, pl -birds* [count] *US, informal* : HELICOPTER

¹whisk /'wɪsk/ *noun, pl whisks* [count] : a cooking tool that is made of curved wire and that is used to stir or beat things (such as eggs, whipping cream, etc.) — see picture at KITCHEN

²whisk *verb* whisks; whisked; whisk-ing [+ *obj*]

1 : to stir or beat (eggs, sauces, etc.) with a whisk or fork • Whisk the eggs with the cream until the mixture thickens.

2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to move or take (someone or something) to another place very quickly • She whisked the children off to bed. • The taxi whisked me to the airport. • The waitress whisked my plate away before I was finished eating.

whisk broom *noun, pl ~ brooms* [count] *US* : a small broom or brush with a short handle that you use especially to clean clothes

whisker /'wɪskə/ *noun, pl -kers*

1 [count] : a hair that grows on a man's face — usually plural • He's decided to shave off his whiskers.

2 [count] : any one of the long, stiff hairs that grow near the mouth of some animals — usually plural • a cat's whiskers

3 [singular] *informal* : a very small distance or amount • He won/lost the race by a whisker. • She came within a whisker of getting fired. [=she came very close to getting fired]

the cat's whiskers see CAT

— whiskered /'wɪskəd/ *adj.* • a whiskered animal/chin

whiskey (*chiefly US + Ireland*) or *chiefly Brit* **whisky** /'wɪski/ *noun, pl whiskeys or whiskeys* [count, non-count] : a strong alcoholic drink made from a grain (such as rye, corn, or barley) • He ordered a whiskey and soda. [=whiskey mixed with soda water] • a glass of whiskey ♦ The usual spelling in the U.S. and Ireland is *whiskey*, but some writers use *whisky* when referring to the drink made in Scotland. In British and Canadian English, *whisky* is the usual spelling but *whiskey* is used for American and Irish whiskey. — compare BOURBON, SCOTCH

¹whisper /'wɪspə/ *verb -pers; -pered; -per-ing*

1 : to speak very softly or quietly [no *obj*] He whispered in/into my ear. • She leaned over and whispered to the girl next to her. • I couldn't hear what they were saying because they were whispering. [+ *obj*] She whispered his name. • She leaned over and whispered something to the girl next to her. • "I'll be right back," she whispered.

2 [no *obj*] : to produce a quiet sound • A soft breeze whispered through the trees.

— whisperer /'wɪspərə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count]

²whisper *noun, pl -pers* [count]

1 a : a very soft and quiet way of speaking • She spoke in a whisper. • I heard whispers downstairs. — see also STAGE WHISPER b : a soft and quiet sound • the whisper of the wind

2 : RUMOR • I've heard whispers that the company might go out of business.

3 a : a very small amount of something — usually singular • A whisper [=trace] of smoke was rising from the chimney.

b : a small amount of information • I expected to hear back from them but I never heard a whisper. [=I never heard from them again]

— whispery /'wɪspəri/ *adj.* • a whispery voice

whispering /'wɪspərɪŋ/ *noun, pl -ings* [count]

1 : something spoken in a very soft or quiet way — usually plural • I could hear faint whisperings coming from the other room.

2 : RUMOR — usually plural • There have been whisperings that the company might go out of business.

whispering campaign *noun, pl ~ -paigns* [count] : an effort to spread rumors about someone in order to hurt that person's reputation • He was the target of a *whispering cam-*

paign started by his political rivals.

whist /'wɪst/ *noun* [noncount] : a type of card game for two teams of two players each

¹whistle /'wɪsəl/ *noun, pl whistles* [count]

1 a : a small device that makes a very high and loud sound when a person blows air through it • The policeman blew his whistle. b : a device through which air or steam is forced to produce a very high and loud sound • a factory whistle • We could hear the train's whistle. — see also BELLS AND WHISTLES

2 : a high and loud sound made by forcing air through your lips or teeth • He gave a whistle [=he whistled] to catch my attention. — see also WOLF WHISTLE

3 : a sound made by blowing • We could hear the low whistle of the wind through the trees. • the whistle of the tea kettle

blow the whistle : to tell police, reporters, etc., about something (such as a crime) that has been kept secret — usually + *on* • He blew the whistle on the company's illegal hiring practices. — see also WHISTLE-BLOWER

clean as a whistle *informal* : very clean • We scrubbed the old boat until it was (as) *clean as a whistle*.

wet your whistle *US, informal* : to have a drink • Would you like to *wet your whistle*? [=would you like a drink?]

²whistle *verb* whistles; whistled; whistling

1 : to make a high sound by blowing air through your lips or teeth [no *obj*] He was whistling as he walked down the street. • He whistled for a cab. [+ *obj*] He whistled a happy tune.

2 [no *obj*] : to produce a high and loud sound by forcing air or steam through a device • The teakettle started to whistle.

3 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [no *obj*] : to move, pass, or go very fast with a high sound • A bullet whistled past him.

whistle in the dark or whistle past the graveyard *informal* : to act or talk as if you are relaxed and not afraid when you are actually afraid or nervous • He shows a confident manner, but he may just be *whistling in the dark*.

— whistling *adj.* • I heard a whistling noise/sound.

whistle-blower /'wɪsəl,bləʊə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count] : a person who tells police, reporters, etc., about something (such as a crime) that has been kept secret • a corporate whistle-blower [=a person who works for a corporation and tells people about the corporation's illegal activities] — see also blow the whistle at ¹WHISTLE

— whistle-blowing /'wɪsəl,bləʊɪŋ/ *noun* [noncount]

whistle-stop /'wɪsəl,stɒp/ *adj.* *always used before a noun, US* : relating to or involving a series of appearances by a politician in different communities during an election campaign • a whistle-stop speech • He went on a *whistle-stop campaign*/tour in the days leading up to the election.

whit /'wɪt/ *noun* [singular] *informal + old-fashioned* : a very small amount — usually used in negative statements • He didn't care a whit [=didn't care at all] about the money.

Whit /'wɪt/ *adj.* *always used before a noun, Brit* : at or near the time of the Christian holiday Pentecost • Whit Tuesday • Whit Sunday [=Pentecost]

¹white /'waɪt/ *adj* whit-er; -est

1 a : having the color of fresh snow or milk • He was wearing white sneakers. • a white T-shirt/blouse • white socks • white lilies • puffy white clouds • white hair • He had a long, white beard. • white rice b : light or pale in color • Her lips were white with fear. • He turned white when he heard the news. — see also SNOW-WHITE

2 : of or relating to a race of people who have light-colored skin and who come originally from Europe • The suspect was a white [=Caucasian] male. • He came from a white middle-class background. • His mother is Hispanic and his father is white.

3 *US* : not having anything written or printed on it • There was too much white [=empty, blank] space on the page.

4 *Brit* : served with cream or milk • white coffee/tea

a white Christmas : a Christmas when there is snow on the ground or when it is snowing • We were hoping for a *white Christmas*.

— white-ness /'waɪtnəs/ *noun* [noncount] — whit-ish /'waɪtɪʃ/ *adj.* • whitish hair

²white *noun, pl whites*

1 [count, noncount] : the very light color of fresh snow or milk — see color picture on page C1

2 a [noncount] : white clothing • nurses dressed in white [=in white uniforms] • The bride looked beautiful in white. [=in her white dress] b whites [plural] : white clothes used to play sports • tennis whites [=white tennis clothes]

3 [count] : a white or light-colored thing or part: such as **a** : the white part of the eye • the *whites* of his eyes — see picture at EYE **b** : the clear or white liquid around the yolk of an egg • The cake recipe calls for four egg whites.

4 [count] : a person belonging to a race of people who have light-colored skin : a white person : CAUCASIAN — usually plural • His policies are supported by both blacks and whites.

white-bait /'waɪt,bet/ *noun* [noncount] : young fish that can be eaten whole

white blood cell *noun*, *pl* ~ **cells** [count] : a clear or colorless cell in the blood that protects the body from disease — called also *white cell*, *white blood corpuscle*, *white corpuscle*; compare RED BLOOD CELL

white-board /'waɪt,bɔ:d/ *noun*, *pl* -boards [count] : a large board with a smooth white surface that can be written on with special markers — compare BLACKBOARD, CHALKBOARD

white bread *noun* [noncount] : bread made with wheat flour that has been bleached so that it is white

white-bread /'waɪt'bred/ *adj*, always used before a noun, US, informal : ordinary or traditional and associated with white, middle class people • *white-bread values*

white-caps /'waɪt,kæps/ *noun* [plural] US : waves that break into small white bubbles at their highest point • The blue sea was flecked with *whitecaps*. — called also (Brit) *white horses*

white cell *noun*, *pl* ~ **cells** [count] : WHITE BLOOD CELL

white chocolate *noun* [noncount] : a type of sweet chocolate that has a white color — compare DARK CHOCOLATE, MILK CHOCOLATE

white-collar /'waɪt'kɔ:lə/ *adj* : of, relating to, or having the kind of jobs that are done in an office instead of a factory, warehouse, etc. • *white-collar jobs/workers* — compare BLUE-COLLAR, PINK-COLLAR

white-collar crime : crime that typically involves stealing money from a company and that is done by people who have important positions in the company ; crime committed by white-collar workers • *Embezzlement is a white-collar crime.*

white corpuscle *noun*, *pl* ~ -puscles [count] : WHITE BLOOD CELL

white dwarf *noun*, *pl* ~ **dwarfs** [count] *astronomy* : a star that is at the end of its life and is very hot, small, and dense

white elephant *noun*, *pl* ~ -phants [count] : something that requires a lot of care and money and that gives little profit or enjoyment — usually singular • The run-down historic building has been the city's *white elephant*.

white flag *noun*, *pl* ~ **flags** [count] : a flag used to show that you want to stop fighting or to indicate defeat — usually singular • Ground troops waved the *white flag* after the battle. — often used figuratively • They raised the *white flag* [=admitted defeat] soon after the election results came in.

white flight *noun* [noncount] US : an occurrence in which many white people move out of a city as more and more people of other races move in

white flour *noun* [noncount] : a type of flour that is widely used in cooking, baking, etc., and that is made from wheat

white goods *noun* [plural] chiefly Brit : large pieces of household equipment (such as refrigerators and washing machines)

White-hall /'waɪt,hɔ:l/ *noun* [noncount] Brit : a wide street in London where there are many government buildings — used to refer to the British government • *Whitehall bureaucrats* • There has been no response from *Whitehall* about the claims.

white horses *noun* [plural] Brit : WHITECAPS

white-hot /'waɪt'ha:t/ *adj*

1 a : glowing white because of being very hot • *white-hot metal* **b** : extremely hot • a *white-hot* skillet

2 informal a : very intense or active • *white-hot* enthusiasm • The atmosphere was *white-hot*. **b** : very popular or successful • The band was *white-hot* after the release of their first album.

White House *noun*

the White House **1** : the place in Washington, D.C., where the U.S. President lives **2** : the executive branch of the U.S. government • The *White House* announced the new appointments to the Cabinet. • *White House* staffers

white knight *noun*, *pl* ~ **knights** [count] : someone or something that rescues or saves another person or thing from a bad situation; especially : a company that buys a sec-

ond company in order to prevent it from being taken over by a third company

white-knuck-le /'waɪt'nʌkəl/ *also* **white-knuck-led** /'waɪt'nʌkəld/ *adj*, always used before a noun : showing, experiencing, or causing very strong feelings of fear, anxiety, etc. • a *white-knuckle* ride on a roller coaster • I'm a *white-knuckle* flier/traveler. [=flying/traveling is very stressful for me] • They rode their motorcycles at *white-knuckle* speeds.

white lie *noun*, *pl* ~ **lies** [count] : a lie about a small or unimportant matter that someone tells to avoid hurting another person • He told a (little) *white lie* as his excuse for missing the party.

white meat *noun* [noncount] : meat that comes from the breast or other thick parts of a chicken, turkey, etc., and that is lighter in color than the other parts when cooked; *also* : meat (such as pork) that is lighter in color than beef when cooked — compare DARK MEAT, RED MEAT

whit-en /'waɪtn/ *verb* -ens; -ened; -en-ing : to make (something) white or whiter or to become white or whiter [no obj] His hair *whitened* as he aged. [+ obj] Bleach will *whiten* the linens. • The new toothpaste *whitens* teeth.

white noise *noun* [noncount] : a constant noise (such as that the noise from a television or radio that is turned on but is not receiving a clear signal) that is a mixture of many different sound waves

white-out /'waɪt,aʊt/ *noun*, *pl* -outs [count] : a type of snowstorm in which blowing or falling snow and clouds make it very difficult to see • We got caught in a *whiteout*. • *whiteout conditions* — compare BLACKOUT

white pages *noun*

the white pages or the White Pages US : the part of a phone book that lists the names, addresses, and phone numbers of people and businesses — compare YELLOW PAGES

White Paper *noun*, *pl* ~ -pers [count] Brit : a government document that provides information on a particular subject before a law is made — compare GREEN PAPER

white pepper *noun* [noncount] : a food seasoning that is made by grinding the dried berries of an Indian plant after removing the hard, black covers on the seeds — compare BLACK PEPPER

white sauce *noun* [noncount] : a light-colored sauce that is made with milk, cream, or broth and that is thickened with flour

white spirit *noun* [noncount] Brit : a liquid that is made from petroleum and that is used to make paint thinner

white supremacist *noun*, *pl* ~ -cists [count] : a person who believes that the white race is better than all other races and should have control over all other races • *White supremacists* were convicted of hate crimes.

— **white supremacy** *noun* [noncount]

white-tailed deer /'waɪt,teld-/ *noun*, *pl* **white-tailed deer** [count] : a common North American deer that has a tail which is white underneath — see picture at DEER

white-tie *adj* — used to describe a formal event at which men wear white ties and white formal coats and women wear formal gowns • a *white-tie* reception/event — compare BLACK-TIE

white trash *noun* [noncount] US, informal + offensive : poor white people who are not well educated

white-wall /'waɪt,wɔ:l/ *noun*, *pl* -walls [count] US : a tire on a car that has a white band near the rim of the wheel • a set of *whitewalls*

¹**white-wash** /'waɪt,wɔ:f/ *noun*, *pl* -wash-es

1 [noncount] : a white liquid mixture used for making surfaces (such as walls or fences) whiter

2 [count] *disapproving* : a planned effort to hide a dishonest, immoral, or illegal act or situation : COVER-UP — usually singular • Many people believe that official report about the investigation was a *whitewash* written to conceal the truth.

3 [count] chiefly Brit : a defeat in a game or contest in which the loser does not score any points • a 10–0 *whitewash*

²**whitewash** *verb* -washes; -washed; -wash-ing [+ obj]

1 : to make (something) whiter by painting it with white-wash • They *whitewashed* the fence. • *whitewashed* walls/buildings

2 : to prevent people from learning the truth about (something bad, such as a dishonest, immoral, or illegal act or situation) • a book that tries to *whitewash* the country's past

3 chiefly Brit : to defeat (an opponent) easily by winning every game, point, etc. • She was *whitewashed* 8–0.

white water *noun* [noncount] : water in part of a river that looks white because it is moving very fast over rocks • The canoe got caught in *white water*.

— **white-wa-ter** /ˈwaɪt,wɑ:tə/ *adj* • *whitewater* rafting

white way *noun*

the Great White Way *US, informal + old-fashioned* : a street in New York City where there are many theaters : BROADWAY • Her show debuted on *the Great White Way*.

white wedding *noun, pl ~ -dings* [count] : a traditional wedding in which the bride wears a white dress

white wine *noun, pl ~ wines* [count, noncount] : wine that is light in color

whit-ey /ˈwaɪti/ *noun, pl whit-ies* chiefly *US slang, offensive*

1 [count] : a white person

2 [noncount] : white people as a group • The poet vented his rage against *whitey*.

whith-er /ˈwɪðə/ *adv, old-fashioned + literary* : to what place

• He grew up in New York City *whither* his family had immigrated in the early 1920s. — sometimes used formally in questions to ask what the future of something will be • *Whither* stem-cell research? [=where is stem-cell research going?; what is the future of stem-cell research?]

whit-ing /ˈwaɪtɪŋ/ *noun, pl whit-ing* [count] : a small fish that lives in the sea and that is used for food

Whit-sun /ˈwɪtsən/ *noun* [noncount] *Brit* : the Christian holiday Pentecost and the days near it • the *Whitsun* holiday

whit-tle /ˈwɪtl/ *verb* **whit-tles; whit-tled; whit-tling** [+ *obj*]

: to cut or shape (a piece of wood) by cutting small pieces from it • He was sitting on the porch, *whittling* a stick. : to make or shape (something) from a piece of wood by cutting small pieces from it • She *whittled* a walking stick from a maple tree branch.

whittle away [*phrasal verb*] **whittle (something) away or whittle away (something)** : to reduce or get rid of (something) slowly • I'm still trying to *whittle away* a few more pounds.

whittle down [*phrasal verb*] **whittle (something) down or whittle down (something)** : to gradually make (something) smaller by removing parts • We *whittled* the list *down* to four people.

¹**whiz** (chiefly *US*) or *Brit* **whizz** /ˈwɪz/ *verb, always followed by an adverb or preposition* **whiz-zes; whizzed; whiz-zing** [no *obj*] *informal*

1 : to move quickly while making a buzzing or humming sound • The ball *whizzed* through the air. • Bullets *whizzed* overhead.

2 **a** : to pass by quickly • Cars *whizzed* by on the highway. • He *whizzed* past us on skates. **b** chiefly *Brit* : to accomplish or complete something easily • She *whizzed* through the exam.

²**whiz** (chiefly *US*) or *Brit* **whizz** *noun, pl whizzes* [count] : a humming or buzzing sound made by something moving quickly • We could hear the *whiz* of the ball as it sailed past us.

take a whiz *US, informal + impolite* : URINATE • He *took a whiz* right on the sidewalk.

— compare ³WHIZ

³**whiz** (chiefly *US*) or *Brit* **whizz** *noun, pl whizzes* [count] *informal* : someone who is very good at something • a computer *whiz* • He's a *whiz* at math. — compare ²WHIZ

whiz kid (chiefly *US*) or *Brit* **whizz kid** *noun, pl ~ kids* [count] : a person who is unusually intelligent or successful especially at an early age

who /ˈhu:/ *pronoun*

1 a : what or which person or people — used when you do not know the name or identity of a person or group of people that you are talking about or asking about • *Who* will be the next president? • *Who* is standing next to you in this photo? • I didn't know *who* he was. • Find out *who* they are. • I wonder *who* else signed up. • *Who* should walk in [=who do you think walked in] when we least expected it? My parents! • She isn't sure *who* she talked to. **b** — used to question a person's character or authority • *Who* are they to tell us what to do? [=what makes them think they can tell us what to do?] • *Who* do you think you are? [=what gives you the right to say or do this?] • *Who* do you think you're talking to? [=what gives you the right to speak to me in this (rude) manner?] **c** — used in questions that are meant to say that no one would or would not do something, know something, etc. • They may come or not. *Who* cares? [=no one cares; I don't care] • Of course I would love to win a million dollars. *Who* wouldn't? [=anyone would] • “Are they coming?” “*Who* knows?” [=no one knows; I don't know] • *Who* are we kid-

ding? [=we aren't kidding/fooling anyone] *usage* see WHOM

2 — used after a noun or pronoun to show which group of people you are talking about • Subscribers *who* are interested in joining the discussion group should contact the secretary.

• The people *who* conducted the study were extremely professional. • Someone *who* handles stress well will be more suited for the job. • I have a friend *who* my parents don't like.

3 — used to introduce an additional statement about someone who has already been mentioned • His patient, *who* was a well-known television personality, suffered a minor stroke. • The former president of the company, *who* is retired now, is credited with expanding and improving the product line. • Her uncle, *who* she's very fond of, lives next door.

who's who **1 or who is who** : information about the people who make up a group • We had lived in this town long enough to know *who was who*. [=to know the names of the different people, what they did, etc.] • I'm still learning *who's who* around the office. **2 a** : a list of the names of the important and well-known people in a particular field • The guest list reads like a *who's who* of the publishing industry. **b** : the important and well-known people in a particular field • The convention was attended by a *who's who* of the publishing industry.

whoa /ˈwoʊ/ *interj*

1 — used to command a horse to stop moving

2 — used to tell someone to slow down or stop and think about something • *Whoa*. Take a deep breath and tell me what's wrong.

3 — used to show that you are surprised or impressed • *Whoa*, that's a cool car.

who'd /ˈhu:d/ — used as a contraction of *who would* or *who had* • *Who'd* [=who would] have thought he could do it? • We didn't know *who'd* [=who had] done it.

who-dun-it (chiefly *US*) or *Brit* **who-dun-nit** /huˈdʌnət/ *noun, pl -its* [count] *informal* : a novel, play, or movie about a murder where you do not know who committed the murder until the end

who-ev-er /huˈevə/ *pronoun*

1 : whatever person : any person at all • A prize will be given to *whoever* solves the riddle. • *Whoever* wants to come along is welcome to join us. • He's an honest man, *whoever* his friends might be. • *Whoever* did this will be held accountable.

2 — used in questions that express surprise or confusion • *Whoever* can that be?

¹**whole** /ˈhoʊl/ *adj*

1 a always used before a *noun* : complete or full : not lacking or leaving out any part • The *whole* [=entire] family went on the trip. • The doctor assured me that the *whole* procedure would only take a few minutes. • The *whole* place was remodeled. It looks great now. • He was out sick for the *whole* [=entire] week. • It's been a *whole* week since I've seen him. • I spent the *whole* summer traveling through Europe. • The *whole* evening was a great success. • She read the *whole* book in one day. • I've been waiting my *whole* life for this. • I felt like the luckiest girl *in the whole wide world* [=in the world] that day. • They failed to tell us the *whole* story. [=they failed to tell us everything; they only told us certain things] • It rained *the whole time* I was there. [=it rained continuously while I was there] • We decided to forget the *whole* thing. **b** : having all the parts : not divided or cut into parts or pieces • a *whole* egg • *whole* strawberries [=strawberries that are not sliced or cut up] • We cooked a *whole* chicken. • *whole* grains • The recipe calls for two *whole* cloves. [=cloves that haven't been ground]

2 a : great or large in size, extent, etc. • The community center offers a *whole* range of programs. • The track team took part in a *whole* series of events. [=in a lot of events] • There's a *whole* set of criteria to consider. • She owns a *whole* collection of hats. [=she owns many different hats] **b** — used for emphasis before a *noun* • The *whole* idea is to make things better, not worse. • She missed the *whole* point of the story. • We weren't quite sure what to make of the *whole* situation. • He doesn't seem to have a *whole* lot of [=much] respect for other people's feelings. • Things are looking a *whole* lot [=much] brighter now.

go (the) whole hog see ¹HOG

out of whole cloth see CLOTH

the whole enchilada see ENCHILADA

the whole (kit and) caboodle see CABOODLE

the whole nine yards see ²YARD

the whole shebang see SHEBANG

the whole shooting match see SHOOTING MATCH

whole nother see NOTHER

— **whole-ness** *noun* [noncount]

²**whole** *noun, pl wholes* [count] : something that is full or complete — usually singular • The *whole* of my day was spent on the phone. [=I spent the entire day on the phone] • the *whole* of creation [=all of creation] • He felt he was part of a *greater whole*. [=that he was a part of something much larger and greater than himself]

as a whole : as a complete unit — used to make a statement that relates to all the parts of something • Language *as a whole* is constantly evolving. • The lecture was intended for the group *as a whole*. [=for everyone; not for just a few people] • The company *as a whole* [=overall] is doing well.

in whole law : to the full or entire extent — used in the phrase *in whole or in part* • The contract can be voided *in whole or in part* [=the entire contract can be voided or a part of the contract can be voided] ten days before the purchase date.

on the whole **1** — used to say what you think is true, what should be done, etc., when you consider a situation in a general way • *On the whole*, it seemed best to cut the visit short. • *On the whole*, I think we've made progress from last week. **2** : in general : in most cases • *On the whole*, new parents reported that they were adapting very well to parenthood. • He did a great job *on the whole*.

³**whole** *adv*

1 : entirely or completely • He has a *whole* new way of looking at things now. [=he has a completely different attitude now]

2 : in one piece that has not been cut into parts • We cooked the chicken *whole*. • The frog swallowed the fly *whole*.

whole food *noun, pl ~ foods* [count, noncount] : a food that is considered healthy because it is grown naturally, has not been processed, and contains no artificial ingredients

whole-heart-ed /'houl'hɑ:təd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : having or showing no doubt or uncertainty about doing something, supporting someone, etc. • *wholehearted* devotion/support • a *wholehearted* effort • The judges gave us their *wholehearted* approval.

— **whole-heart-ed-ly** *adv* • I agreed *wholeheartedly* with his views. • She threw herself *wholeheartedly* into the work.

whole life insurance *noun* [noncount] : a type of life insurance that costs the same as long as the insured person is alive and that pays benefits to survivors when the person has died

whole meal *adj, Brit* : WHOLE WHEAT • *whole meal* bread

whole note *noun, pl ~ notes* [count] *US* : a musical note equal in time to two half notes or four quarter notes — called also (*Brit*) *semibreve*

whole number *noun, pl ~ -bers* [count] *mathematics* : a number (such as 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, etc.) that is not a negative and is not a fraction

¹**whole-sale** /'houl,seil/ *noun* [noncount] : the business of selling things in large amounts to other businesses rather than to individual customers — compare RETAIL

²**wholesale** *adj*

1 : relating to the business of selling things in large amounts to other businesses rather than to individual customers • a *wholesale* grocer/dealer/merchant • *wholesale* prices • The crops originated from *wholesale* growers. • Is that price retail or *wholesale*?

2 : affecting large numbers of people or things • The poor economy has caused *wholesale* layoffs [=has caused a large number of layoffs] in many industries.

— **wholesale** *adv* • I can get the pet supplies *wholesale*. • The fish sells for about \$9 a pound *wholesale*.

³**wholesale** *verb* -sales; -saled; -sal-ing

1 [+ *obj*] : to sell (things) to other businesses rather than to individual customers • The company *wholesales* clothing to boutiques in the area.

2 [no *obj*] : to be sold to other businesses for a specified price — usually + *at* or *for* • a product that *wholesales at/for* \$10 a pound

whole-sal-er /'houl,seilə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count] : a person or company that sells things to businesses and not to individuals • a leading *wholesaler* in the book business

whole-some /'houl,səm/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : helping to keep your body healthy : good for your health • *wholesome* [=healthy, nutritious] meals/snacks • a *wholesome* dish made with vegetables • a *wholesome* diet

2 a : morally good • *wholesome* family values • less-than-

wholesome entertainment that wasn't appropriate for children **b** : suggesting good health or behavior • a young actor known for his *wholesome* good looks

— **whole-some-ness** *noun* [noncount]

whole step *noun, pl ~ steps* [count] *US, music* : a difference in pitch that is equal to 1/2 of an octave — called also (*chiefly Brit*) *tone*

whole wheat *adj* : made from wheat from which no part (such as the bran) has been removed • *whole wheat* bread

whol-ly /'houlli/ *adv, formal* : completely or fully • She is *wholly* devoted to her children. • An infant is *wholly* dependent on its mother. • The invention is *wholly* [=entirely] her own. • The claim is *wholly* without merit.

whom /'hu:m/ *pronoun, objective case of WHO* — used in formal writing or speech • To *whom* am I speaking? • His brother, with *whom* he is very close, works for the same company. • I was introduced to the artist, *whom* I was anxious to meet. • an author *whom* I had never heard of

usage *Whom* is a more formal word than *who* and is not commonly used in ordinary speech and writing, where it can seem awkward and unnatural. • (*formal*) To *whom* did you speak? = (*formal*) *Whom* did you speak to? = (more commonly) *Who* did you speak to? • (*formal*) We weren't sure *whom* to hire. = (more commonly) We weren't sure *who* to hire. • (*formal*) The person to *whom* we spoke to was very helpful. = (*formal*) The person *whom* we spoke to was very helpful. = (more commonly) The person *who/that* we spoke to was very helpful. • (*formal*) Her brother, *whom* I met last year, is an attorney. = (more commonly) Her brother, *who* I met last year, is an attorney.

to *whom* it may concern see ²CONCERN

whom-ev-er /hu'mevə/ *pronoun, objective case of WHOEVER* — used in formal writing or speech • You can invite *whomever* you please.

¹**whoop** /'hu:p, 'wu:p/ *verb whoops; whooped; whooping* [no *obj*] *informal* : to shout loudly in an enthusiastic or excited way • The children *whooped* with joy at the sight of all the presents.

whoop it up informal : to celebrate and have fun in a noisy way • My pals and I *whooped it up* at the local bar after the concert. • The band *whooped it up* for the sold-out crowd.

²**whoop** *noun, pl whoops* [count] : a high, loud sound expressing enthusiasm or excitement — usually singular • The coach let out a big *whoop* when the team scored.

big whoop US, informal — used in an ironic way to say that something is not important or impressive • “Their team is going to the play-offs.” “*Big whoop.*” [=big deal] • It might look special but it's really *no big whoop*. [=no big deal; it's not very important]

whoop-de-do or whoop-de-doo /,wu:pdi'du:, ,wupdi'du:/ *interj, US, informal* — used in an ironic way to say that something is not important or impressive • “She can cook a five-course meal in an hour.” “*Whoop-de-do.*” [=so what?; who cares?]

¹**whoop-ee** /'wupi/ *interj* — used to express enthusiasm • *Whoopee!* I passed the entrance exam! • We did it! *Whoopee!*

²**whoopee** *noun*

make whoopee **1** *US, informal + old-fashioned* : to have sex • They're *making whoopee*. **2** *Brit, informal + old-fashioned* : to have noisy fun

whoopee cushion *noun, pl ~ -ions* [count] : a rubber bag filled with air that is used as a joke and that makes a loud, rude noise when someone sits on it

whoop-ing cough /'hu:piŋ-/ *noun* [noncount] *medical* : a disease that usually affects children and that causes severe coughing and difficult breathing

whoops also woops /'wups/ *interj* — used to express surprise or distress or to say in a mild way that you are sorry about having done or said something wrong • *Whoops* [=oops], I slipped! • *Woops*, I didn't mean to tell you.

¹**whoosh** /'wuf/ *noun* [count]

1 : the sound made by something that is moving quickly — usually singular • The ball flew by with a *whoosh*.

2 : a small amount of gas, liquid, etc., that comes from a place quickly — usually singular • A *whoosh* of hot air escaped from the vent.

²**whoosh** *verb whoosh-es; whooshed; whoosh-ing* [no *obj*] : to move very quickly with the sound of quickly flowing air or water • Cars *whooshed* along the highway. • Water *whooshed* down the pipe.

whop-per /'wɑ:pə/ *noun, pl -pers* [count] *informal*



1 : something that is very large and impressive • That's a *whopper* of a diamond ring.

2 : a big lie • He told us a real *whopper*.

whop·ping /'wɑ:pɪŋ/ *adj.*, always used before a noun, informal : very large, impressive, etc. • The play was a *whopping* success. • The car sped by at a *whopping* 110 miles per hour.

whore /'hɔə/ *noun*, *pl* **whores** [count]

1 somewhat old-fashioned : a woman who has sex with people in exchange for money : PROSTITUTE

2 informal + offensive : a woman who has sex with a lot of people

whore-house /'hɔə,haʊs/ *noun*, *pl* **-houses** [count] informal : a place where prostitutes live and work : BROTHEL

whor·ing /'hɔrɪŋ/ *noun* [noncount] old-fashioned : the activity of having sex with a prostitute • *drinking and whoring*

whorl /'wɔl, 'wɔrəl/ *noun*, *pl* **whorls** [count]

1 : something that turns or goes around in a circle • a *whorl* of smoke • the *whorls* and eddies of the river

2 : a pattern that is made by a series of circles that turn around a center point • the *whorl* of a fingerprint

3 technical : an arrangement of leaves, petals, etc., that forms a circle around a stem

who's /'hu:z/ — used as a contraction of *who is* or *who has* • *Who's* [=who is] in charge here? • a student *who's* [=who has] always been interested in math

who's who see WHO

Do not confuse *who's* with *whose*.

¹whose /'hu:z/ *adj*

1 — used in questions to ask who owns something, has something, etc. • *Whose* bag is it? • I wonder *whose* story was chosen. • *Whose* side are you on anyway?

2 — used to show which person or thing you are talking about • The gentleman *whose* cell phone was stolen was very upset. • The prize will go to the writer *whose* story shows the most imagination. • the book *whose* cover is torn

3 — used to give more information about a person or thing that has already been mentioned • The curator, *whose* name I've since forgotten, put together an exceptional exhibit. • My roommate, *whose* sister is an actress, gets lots of requests for autographs.

Do not confuse *whose* with *who's*.

²whose *pronoun* : that or those belonging to a person • *Whose* are these? [=who is the owner of these?] • Let him know *whose* you will choose.

Do not confuse *whose* with *who's*.

who-so-ev·er /,hu:sə'wevə/ *pronoun*, formal + literary : WHOEVER

whup /'wʊp/ *verb* **whups; whupped; whup·ping** [+ *obj*] *US slang*

1 : to beat (someone or something) as a punishment • His father *whupped* him for swearing.

2 : to defeat (someone or something) easily and completely • Our team got *whupped* in last night's game. • (impolite) We got our butts/asses *whupped* yesterday.

¹why /'waɪ/ *adv*

1 : for what reason or purpose • *Why* did you quit your job? • *Why* are you laughing? [=what are you laughing about?] • *Why* is the sky blue? • *Why* didn't you call me? • *Why* didn't I think of that? • "I can't go out tonight." "Why not?"

2 — used to offer a suggestion or to say that a course of action is not necessary • If you don't want to go, *why* not just say so? • Instead of calling, *why* not e-mail instead? • *Why* should I care about that? • *Why* don't you come over for dinner? [=we would like to have you over for dinner] • You deserve the best treatment. *Why* settle for less? [=you shouldn't be happy with anything less] • "I'll try calling again." "Why bother?" [=it's not worth the trouble]

3 — used to express irritation or annoyance • *Why* can't you make up your mind? • *Why* must I always repeat myself? • *Why* would anyone say such a thing? • *Why oh why* did I say something so stupid?

²why *conj*

1 : the cause, reason, or purpose for which • I know *why* he did it. • It's easy to see *why* she fell in love with him. • He's a very good player. That's *why* he made the team.

2 : for which • The reason *why* they succeeded is obvious. They worked really hard. • Give me one good reason *why* I should stay.

³why *noun*

the whys and (the) wherefores : the reasons for something • She explained *the whys and the wherefores* of the sudden price increase.

⁴why *interj*, somewhat old-fashioned — used at the beginning of a statement especially to express surprise • *Why*, I can't imagine such a thing! • "Do you know him?" "Why, yes! We know him quite well." • "Would you like another drink?" "Why, yes. Thank you." • If I want a drink, *why*, I'll just get it myself! • *Why*, of course! That makes perfect sense.

Wl *abbr* Wisconsin

Wic·ca /'wɪkə/ *noun* [noncount] : a religion that is characterized by belief in the existence of magical powers in nature

— **Wic·can** /'wɪkən/ *adj* • *Wiccan* rituals • My friend is *Wiccan*. — **Wiccan** *noun*, *pl* **-cans** [count] • a group of *Wiccans*

¹wick /'wɪk/ *noun*, *pl* **wicks** [count] : a string or piece of material in a candle or lamp that is lit for burning

get on someone's wick *Brit*, informal : to annoy someone •

His chatter was *getting on my wick* [=getting on my nerves]

²wick *verb* **wicks; wicked; wicking** [+ *obj*] *US* : to cause (fluid or moisture) to be pulled away from a surface (such as your skin) — usually + *away* • a fabric that *wicks away* perspiration

¹wick·ed /'wɪkəd/ *adj* **wick·ed·er; -est** [also more ~; most ~]

1 a : morally bad : EVIL • a *wicked* act of cruelty • She played the part of the *wicked* stepmother/witch in the play.

b informal : having or showing slightly bad thoughts in a way that is funny or not serious • She wore a *wicked* grin after her victory. • *wicked* laughter • She's known for having a *wicked* sense of humor.

2 informal : very bad or unpleasant • She had a *wicked* case of food poisoning. • A *wicked* odor was coming from the closet.

3 informal : very good • He throws a *wicked* fastball.

— **wick·ed·ly** *adv* • The chocolate cake looked *wickedly* tempting. • He told a *wickedly* funny story. — **wick·ed·ness** *noun* [noncount] old-fashioned

²wicked *adv*, *US*, informal : very or extremely • His car goes *wicked* fast. • All his friends thought he was *wicked* cool. • It's *wicked* funny! • The tickets were *wicked* expensive.

wick·er /'wɪkə/ *noun* [noncount] : thin twigs or sticks that are woven together to make furniture and baskets — often used before another noun • a *wicker* chair [=a chair made from wicker] • *wicker* baskets

wick·er·work /'wɪkə,wæk/ *noun* [noncount] : something (such as furniture) that is made from wicker • We bought *wickerwork* for the screened porch. • *wickerwork* baskets

wick·et /'wɪkət/ *noun*, *pl* **-ets** [count]

1 *US* : any one of the series of curved wires in the ground that the ball must be hit through in the game of croquet

2 *cricket* **a** : either of the two sets of three wooden sticks at which the ball is bowled **b** : the rectangular area of ground that is between the two wickets

— see also STICKY WICKET

wick·et·keep·er /'wɪkət,ki:pə/ *noun*, *pl* **-ers** [count] *cricket* : the player who stands behind the wicket to catch the ball

¹wide /'waɪd/ *adj* **wid·er; wid·est**

1 a : extending a great distance from one side to the other : not narrow • a *wide* [=broad] road • the *widest* part of the river • a *wide* smile — opposite NARROW **b** : measured from side to side : having a specified width • The desk is three feet *wide*. • How *wide* is the doorway?

2 : opened as far as possible • Her eyes were *wide* with wonder.

3 : not limited in range or amount : EXTENSIVE • We have a *wide* range of options. • a job calling for *wide* experience • The election received *wide* news coverage.

4 : including or involving a large number of people or things • The dishes are available in a *wide* assortment of colors. [=in many colors] • The book appealed to a *wide* audience. [=many people liked the book] • That car dealership has the *widest* [=largest] selection around.

5 : extending throughout a specified area — usually used in combination • Police conducted a neighborhood-*wide* search for the suspect. [=police searched for the suspect throughout the neighborhood] • There has been an industry-*wide* decrease in production.

6 : away from a target — used to describe something that does not hit what you were aiming at • His shot was *wide* and landed in the rough. — often + *of* • The shot was *wide of* the goal. [=the shot missed the goal] — see also *wide of the mark* at MARK

give (someone or something) a **wide berth** see ¹BERTH
— **wide-ness** *noun* [noncount] • the *wideness* of the beach

²wide *adv*

1 : at a great distance : FAR • The poles were placed *wide* apart.

2 : to the side of something by a large distance • The shot landed *wide*. — usually + *of* • The arrow landed/went *wide of* the target. [=the arrow missed the target] • He hit his shot *wide of* the green on the sixth hole.

3 : to the fullest extent : as fully as possible : COMPLETELY • He opened his eyes/mouth *wide*. • They spread the map out *wide*. • *wide open* eyes • His mouth was *wide open*. • They like to hike through *wide open* spaces. • It appears that the governor's race is still *wide open*. [=any of the candidates could win]

far and wide see ¹FAR

wide-angle lens *noun*, *pl* ~ **lenses** [count] : a camera lens that you use to take pictures that show a wider view than other lenses

wide awake *adj* : fully awake • It was quite late, but the children were still *wide awake*. [=not tired at all]

wide boy *noun*, *pl* ~ **boys** [count] *Brit, informal + disapproving* : a man who earns a lot of money by doing things that are dishonest or illegal

wide-eyed /'waɪd'aɪd/ *adj*

1 : having your eyes wide open, especially because of surprise or fear • He stared at me, *wide-eyed* in astonishment.

2 : having or showing a lack of experience or knowledge • *wide-eyed* [=naive] innocence

wide-ly /'waɪdli/ *adv* [more ~; most ~]

1 : over or through a wide area : in or to many places • They have traveled *widely*. • *widely* scattered towns • Their products are *widely* available.

2 : to a great extent : a lot • The products differ *widely* [=greatly] in quality.

3 : by a large number of people • a *widely* known political figure • The books are *widely* read by adults as well as children. • a *widely* [=generally] accepted belief

4 : over a wide range • The students come from families with *widely* different incomes. [=from families with large incomes, small incomes, etc.] • *widely* divergent viewpoints

wid-en /'waɪdn/ *verb* -ens; -ened; -en-ing

1 [+ *obj*] : to make (something) wide or wider : BROADEN • The city is going to *widen* the road. • They plan to *widen* the investigation. • The team *widened* [=increased] their lead in the fifth inning.

2 [*no obj*] : to become wide or wider • Her eyes *widened* in surprise. • They went swimming at a spot where the river *widens*. • The *widening* [=increasing] gap between incomes was noted in the study. • The scope of the investigation has *widened*.

wide-out /'waɪdaʊt/ *noun*, *pl* -outs [count] *American football* : WIDE RECEIVER

wide-rang-ing /'waɪd, reɪndʒɪŋ/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : including many different ideas, actions, or things • She had *wide-ranging* interests. • The implications of the investigation were *wide-ranging*.

wide receiver *noun*, *pl* ~ -ers [count] *American football* : a player on the offensive team who specializes in catching forward passes

wide-screen *adj* : having a screen that is wider than the screen of most televisions • a *wide-screen* TV

wide-spread /'waɪd'spreɪd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : common over a wide area or among many people • There is *wide-spread* public interest in the election. • Trade partners had become more *widespread*. • There was *widespread* opposition to the plan.

wid-get /'wɪdʒət/ *noun*, *pl* -gets [count] *informal* : any small mechanical or electronic device : GADGET — often used to refer to an imaginary product that is being mentioned as an example in a discussion of business • Could you make and sell *widgits* for less money than the competition?

wid-ow /'wɪdɔʊ/ *noun*, *pl* -ows [count]

1 : a woman whose husband has died

2 *informal* : a woman whose husband often leaves her alone while he plays sports or is involved in other activities • a football *widow* [=a woman whose husband spends a lot of time watching football] • Everyone joked that she was a *golf widow* [=a woman whose husband is often away playing golf]

— see also BLACK WIDOW

— **wid-ow-hood** /'wɪdɔʊ,hʊd/ *noun* [noncount] • She had a hard time during her first year of *widowhood*.

wid-owed /'wɪdɔʊd/ *adj* — used to describe a woman whose husband has died or a man whose wife has died • her *widowed* mother/father • She was *widowed* by the war. [=her husband was killed in the war]

wid-ow-er /'wɪdɔʊə/ *noun*, *pl* -ers [count] : a man whose wife has died

width /'wɪðθ/ *noun*, *pl* widths

1 : the distance from one side of something to the other side : a measurement of how wide something is [noncount] What is the *width* of the table? • She carefully measured the length and *width* of the room. • The deck runs the full *width* of the house. [count] The carpet is available in several *widths*. • We swam ten *widths* in the pool.

2 [count] : a measured and cut piece of material (such as cloth) • I bought two *widths* of fabric.

wield /'wiːld/ *verb* **wields**; **wield-ed**; **wield-ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to hold (something, such as a tool or weapon) in your hands so that you are ready to use it • The man was *wielding* a gun/knife. • Can he *wield* a hammer?

2 : to have and use (power, influence, etc.) • He *wields* a great deal of influence over his students. • *wield* clout/power — **wield-er** *noun*, *pl* -ers [count] • *wielders* of power

wie-ner /'wiːnə/ *noun*, *pl* -ners [count] *US, informal* : HOT DOG 1

wife /'waɪf/ *noun*, *pl* **wives** /'waɪvz/ [count] : a married woman : the woman someone is married to • We met him and his *wife*. • They were *husband and wife* [=a married couple] for almost 60 years. — compare HUSBAND; see also FISHWIFE, HOUSEWIFE, TROPHY WIFE

wife-ly /'waɪfli/ *adj*, *old-fashioned* : of, relating to, or suitable for a wife • *wifely* affection

¹**wig** /'wɪɡ/ *noun*, *pl* **wigs** [count] : artificial hair that you wear on your head because you are bald or in order to change your appearance • She was wearing a blonde *wig*. — compare HAIRPIECE, TOUPEE

flip your wig see ¹FLIP

²**wig** *verb* **wigs**; **wigged**; **wig-ging**

wig out [*phrasal verb*] **wig out** or **wig (someone) out** *US slang* : to become very upset or to cause (someone) to become very upset • She *wigged out* [=freaked out] when the police arrived. • The movie totally *wigged me out*.

wigging *noun* [*singular*] *Brit, old-fashioned* : an occurrence in which someone speaks in a very angry and critical way to someone who has done something wrong : a severe scolding • He received a *wigging* for what he did.

wig-gle /'wɪɡəl/ *verb* **wig-gles**; **wig-gled**; **wig-gling** : to move up and down or from side to side with short quick motions [+ *obj*] He *wiggled* his fingers/toes. • She *wiggled* her hips. [*no obj*] His toes were *wiggling*. • The puppy *wiggled* with excitement.

— **wiggle** *noun*, *pl* **wiggles** [count] • She gave her hips a *wiggle*.

wiggle room *noun* [noncount] *US, somewhat informal* : the ability to make small changes in a plan, schedule, etc., if they are needed • We should allow for some *wiggle room* [=flexibility] when we plan the schedule. • The salesman has some *wiggle room* to reduce the price of the car.

wig-gly /'wɪɡəli/ *adj* **wig-gli-er**; -est

1 : making many small movements : moving with a wiggle • *wiggly* worms

2 : having many curves : not straight • There were *wiggly* [=wavy] lines in the sand.

wig-wam /'wɪɡ,wɑːm/ *noun*, *pl* -wams [count] : a round tent that was used in the past by Native Americans as a house or shelter — see picture at TEPEE

¹**wild** /'waɪld/ *adj* **wild-er**; -est

1 *a of an animal* : living in nature without human control or care : not tame • *wild* ducks/animals *b of a plant* : growing or produced in nature : not grown or farmed by people • *wild* blueberries/grapes/honey — compare CULTIVATED *c of land* : not changed by people : not settled or developed • *wild* places high in the mountains • Few species can survive in this *wild* [=savage] landscape.

2 : uncontrolled and dangerous • I felt a *wild* rage. • He was *wild* with anger. • He had a *wild* [=crazy] look in his eyes.

3 : very enthusiastic or excited • *wild* laughter • *wild* revelers • The crowd *went wild* when the band took the stage.

4 : going far beyond what is normal or usual • They painted the rooms with some *wild* colors. • He has some pretty *wild* [=strange] ideas about raising children. • He told us a *wild* story about their camping trip. • The company was successful *beyond my wildest dreams/fantasies* [=much more suc-

cessful that I ever thought possible]

5 a : noisy and disorganized • The party was getting kind of *wild* [=out of control] so we left. • *wild* protests **b** : very enjoyable, lively, and exciting • It was a *wild* party. • He loves the city's *wild* nightclub scene.

6 : made without knowledge or information : not based on facts • That's just a *wild* guess.

7 of a playing card : able to represent any other playing card • In this game, jokers are *wild*.

8 : done without accuracy or control • The shortstop made a *wild* throw to first base. — see also WILD PITCH

9 : very stormy or violent • It was a *wild* night of heavy snow and strong winds. • a *wild* [=rough, turbulent] sea

be wild about : to like (someone or something) very much • She's *wild about* [=crazy about] her new boyfriend. • He is absolutely *wild about* baseball. • She's not *wild about* the idea. [=she doesn't like the idea]

sow your (wild) oats see ¹SOW

wild and woolly see ¹WOOLLY

— **wild-ness** /'wajəldnəs/ *noun* [noncount] • the *wildness* and beauty of the scenery

²wild *noun*

1 the wilds : a large area of land where people do not live and where plants, trees, etc., grow freely : WILDERNESS • They hiked through the *wilds* of Maine.

2 the wild : a wild, free, or natural place, state, or existence • The plants were collected from the *wild*. • They will return the animal to the *wild* when it is healthy. • Could these animals survive in the *wild*? • I've only seen that animal in a zoo, never in the *wild*.

³**wild** *adv* : without being controlled • These plants grow *wild* on the roadside.

go hog wild see ¹HOG

run wild : to run, go, behave, etc., in a wild and uncontrolled way • The mob was *running wild* in the streets. • His imagination *ran wild*.

wild boar *noun*, *pl* ~ **boars** [count] : BOAR 2

wild card *noun*, *pl* ~ **cards** [count]

1 : a playing card that can represent any other card in a game • The joker is a *wild card*.

2 : a person or thing that could affect a situation in a way that cannot be predicted : an unknown or unpredictable factor • Taxes are the *wild card* in this election.

3 sports : a player or team chosen to fill a place in a competition after the regularly qualified players or teams have all been decided • The team made it into the play-offs as the/a *wild card*.

4 usually wildcard : a symbol (such as ? or *) that is used in a computer search to represent any letter or number

wild-cat /'wajəld,kæt/ *noun*, *pl* -**cats** [count] : a kind of cat that lives in the wilderness

wildcat strike *noun*, *pl* ~ **strikes** [count] : a strike that is started by a group of workers without the approval of their union

wil-de-beest /'wɪldə,bɪ:st/ *noun*, *pl* **wil-de-beests** also **wildebeest** [count] : a large African animal that has long curving horns — called also *gnu*

wil-der-ness /'wɪldənəs/ *noun*, *pl* -**ness-es** [count] : a wild and natural area in which few people live • She enjoys hikes through the *wilderness*. — often used before another noun • They liked to take *wilderness* excursions. • *wilderness* conservation — often used figuratively • a bureaucratic *wilderness*

wilderness area *noun*, *pl* ~ **areas** [count] *US* : a large area of public land that is kept in its natural state

wild-eyed /'wajəld'aɪd/ *adj*

1 : having a wild expression in the eyes : looking dangerous or out of control • a *wild-eyed* criminal

2 : very extreme or wild • *wild-eyed* schemes/theories

wild-fire /'wajəld,fajə/ *noun*, *pl* -**fires** [count] : a fire in a wild area (such as a forest) that is not controlled and that can burn a large area very quickly • The recent *wildfires* were made worse by the strong winds.

like wildfire *informal* : very quickly • The new fad spread like wildfire.

wild-flow-er /'wajəld,flawə/ *noun*, *pl* -**ers** [count] : a flower that grows in natural places without being planted by people • a field full of *wildflowers*

wild-fowl /'wajəld,fawəl/ *noun* [noncount] : birds (such as ducks and geese) that live in the wild especially near water and are often hunted

wild goose chase *noun*, *pl* ~ **chases** [count] : a difficult

and long search for something that is not important or that cannot be found • The boss sent me on a *wild goose chase* that wasted half the day.

wild-life /'wajəld,laɪf/ *noun* [noncount] : animals living in nature : wild animals • an area with abundant *wildlife* — often used before another noun • *wildlife* management/protection • a *wildlife* preserve [=an area of land where wild animals are protected]

wild-ly /'wajəldli/ *adv* [more ~; most ~]

1 : in an uncontrolled or excited way : in a wild way • He was waving his arms *wildly*.

2 : very or extremely • a *wildly* popular restaurant • *wildly* different cultures • I'm not *wildly* enthusiastic about seeing them.

wild pitch *noun*, *pl* ~ **pitches** [count] *baseball* : a pitch that cannot be caught by the catcher and that allows a runner to go to the next base

wild rice *noun* [noncount] : a kind of grain that is produced by a tall North American plant that grows in water

Wild West *noun*

the Wild West : the western United States in the past when there were many cowboys, outlaws, etc. • stories about the *Wild West* — often used before another noun • *Wild West* stories • a *Wild West* show

wiles /'wajəlz/ *noun* [plural] : clever tricks that you use to get what you want • She used her *feminine wiles* to entice him to give her the job.

¹**will** /'wɪl, wəl/ *verb*, *past tense would* /'wʊd, wəd/; *present tense for both singular and plural will*; *negative will not or won't* /'wəʊnt/ [modal verb]

1 — used to say that something is expected to happen in the future • We *will* [=we are going to] leave tomorrow. • I *will* be there in fifteen minutes. • Tomorrow *will* be partly cloudy and cool. • What do you think *will* happen? • Who do you think *will* win? • He *will* be severely punished for this crime. • We *will* continue our efforts, and we *will* succeed. [=we are determined to succeed]

2 a — used to say that you want something • I *will* [(more commonly) *I'll*] have a hamburger and fries. • “*Will* you have another cup of tea?” “Yes, I *will*, thank you.” **b** — used to say that you are willing to do something • Yes, I *will* marry you. • The doctor *will* see you now. • “*Will* you help him?” “No, I most certainly *will not*!” • No one *would* do it.

3 — used to ask someone to do something • *Will* [=would] you please pass the salt? • *Will* you help me with my homework? • *Will* you please stop talking? • Shut the window, *will* you? • If you *will* follow me, ladies and gentlemen, I'll take you to the next gallery.

4 — used to give a command or to say what must happen or not happen • You *will* do as I say. • Everyone *will* leave immediately! • I *will not* have my own children talking to me like that! • No one *will* leave this room until a decision has been made.

5 a — used to say that something is likely or certain to be true • That *will* be the babysitter at the door. • The gray house on the left *will* be theirs. [=must be theirs] • Try this soup—you *will* like it. [(more commonly) *you'll* like it] • Ask anyone and they *will* tell you the same thing. **b** — used to describe a situation that is continuing • He *won't* stop bothering me. [=he keeps bothering me; he refuses to stop bothering me] • The door *won't* open.

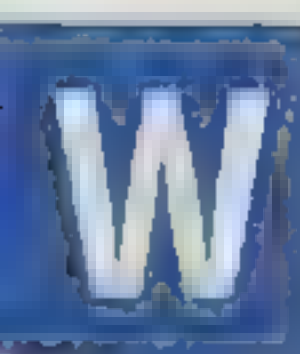
6 — used to say that something usually happens or that a person or thing usually does something • The dog *will* growl if you get too close to it. • She *will* wait until the last minute to finish her homework. • People *will* talk if they see us together. • Accidents *will* happen. [=accidents sometimes happens; it isn't possible to avoid all accidents] ♦ In British English, this sense is sometimes used to show that you are annoyed that someone does something often. • He *will* leave his coat on the chair instead of hanging it up.

7 — used to say that something is able to do something or contain a certain amount • The batteries *will* last a maximum of four hours. • The back seat *will* [=can] hold three people. [=it is capable of holding three people] • This *will* do if there is nothing better.

— compare ³WILL, ⁴WILL

²**will** /'wɪl/ *noun*, *pl* **wills**

1 [count] *law* : a legal document in which a person states who should receive his or her possessions after he or she dies • In her *will*, she asked that her money be donated to the church. • He *made/prepared/wrote* a *will* only days before his death. — see also LIVING WILL



2 : a strong desire or determination to do something [count] She has a strong *will*. = She has a *will of iron*. = She has an *iron will*. • He won the *battle/clash of wills* with his wife. [=he got what he wanted] — often followed by *to* + *verb* • During her illness, she never lost her *will to live/survive*. • He has the *will to succeed*. [=he has a strong desire to succeed] [noncount] He has no *will* of his own. • Does he have the *strength of will* [=is he willing to work extremely hard] to complete such demanding training? — see also FREE WILL, STRONG-WILLED

3 [noncount] : a person's choice or desire in a particular situation • They were obedient to the king's *will*. [=they did what the king wanted them to do] • a government that reflects the *will* of the people • As a child, he was forced to play the violin *against his will*. [=even though he did not want to play it] • She chose to *go against her parents' will* and marry him anyway. [=she chose to marry him even though her parents did not want her to marry him] • She is always trying to *impose her will* on other people. [=trying to force other people to do what she wants]

at will : when you want or in a way that you want • She is free to come and go *at will*. • The document can be modified *at will*. • The soldiers were told to fire *at will*.

where there's a will, there's a way — used to say that if you want to do something very much, you can find a way to do it • “Do you think she can finish the project on time?” “She can if she really wants to. *Where there's a will, there's a way.*”

with a will : with a lot enthusiasm and energy • She set about the work *with a will*.

with the best will in the world Brit : with the most sincere desire and effort to do something good or worthwhile — used especially to say that it is not possible to do something even if you want to do it very much • Even *with the best will in the world*, the work cannot be done that quickly.

— see also GOODWILL, ILL WILL

3 *will* /ˈwɪl/ verb, present tense for both singular and plural will [+ obj] : to want or desire (something) ♦ This verb is only used in the simple present tense. • You can say *what you will* [=you can say whatever you want to say], but I will always love her. • Call it *what you will*, it is still illegal. [=it is illegal no matter what you call it] • Imagine, *if you will*, life without computers. • Baseball is my love, my obsession *if you will*. [=if you want to call it that] — compare ¹WILL, ⁴WILL

4 *will* /ˈwɪl/ verb wills; willed; will-ing [+ obj]

1 a : to cause or try to cause (something) to happen by using the power of your mind • She was haunted by the thought that she had *willed* his death. [=that she had caused his death by wishing that he would die] **b** : to cause or try to cause (someone or something) to do something by using the power of your mind • He *willed* himself to stay awake. • As she neared the finish line she *willed* her legs to keep running.

2 : to want or intend (something) to happen • It will happen if God *wills* it.

3 law : to state in a will that (your property) will be given to a particular person, organization, etc., after you die • She *willed* her property to her children. • He *willed* his entire estate to the church. = He *willed* the church his entire estate.

— compare ¹WILL, ³WILL

will-ful or chiefly Brit *wil-ful* /ˈwɪlfəl/ adj, disapproving

1 : refusing to change your ideas or opinions or to stop doing something • a stubborn and *willful* child

2 : done deliberately : INTENTIONAL • He has shown a *willful* disregard for other people's feelings. • *willful* disobedience/murder

— *will-ful-ly* adv • The press *willfully* ignored the facts of the case. — *will-ful-ness* noun [noncount]

wil-lies /ˈwɪlɪz/ noun

the willies informal : a nervous feeling • Hearing noises at night gives me *the willies*. [=the creeps]

will-ing /ˈwɪlɪŋ/ adj [more ~; most ~]

1 : not refusing to do something : READY — followed by *to* + *verb* • I'm perfectly *willing to try*. • They are always *willing and eager to help*. • We're *ready and willing to make* the trip.

2 : quick to act or respond : doing something or ready to do something without being persuaded • He was a *willing* participant in the crime. • *willing* workers • She's lending a *willing* hand.

3 : done, made, or given by choice : VOLUNTARY • *willing* obedience • a *willing* sacrifice

God willing see GOD

the spirit is willing but the flesh is weak see ¹SPIRIT

— *will-ing-ly* /ˈwɪlɪŋli/ adv • The student acted *willingly*. • We *willingly* agreed to the proposal. — *will-ing-ness* noun [noncount] • He appreciated her *willingness* to help.

will-o'-the-wisp /ˌwɪləðəˈwɪsp/ noun [noncount]

1 : a goal that cannot be reached • the *will-o'-the-wisp* of world peace

2 : a light that sometimes appears at night over wet ground

wil-low /ˈwɪləʊ/ noun, pl *-lows* [count] : a tree that has long, narrow leaves and strong, thin branches that are used to make baskets — see also PUSSY WILLOW

wil-lowy /ˈwɪləwi/ adj [more ~; most ~] : tall, thin, and graceful • a *willowy* young dancer • Her figure is *willowy*.

will-pow-er /ˈwɪlˌpaʊə/ noun [noncount] : the ability to control yourself : strong determination that allows you to do something difficult (such as to lose weight or quit smoking) • The dessert buffet tested my *willpower*. • He conquered his drinking problem through sheer *willpower*.

wil-ly also *wil-lie* /ˈwɪli/ noun, pl *-lies* [count] informal : PENIS

wil-ly-nil-ly /ˈwɪliˈnɪli/ adv

1 : in a careless and unplanned way • They decided *willy-nilly* to change the rules.

2 : in a way that does not allow any choices or planning • We are being forced *willy-nilly* to accept whatever the government decides.

1 *wilt* /ˈwɪlt/ verb wilts; wilt-ed; wilt-ing

1 of a plant : to bend over because of not having enough water [no obj] The roses were *wilting*. [+ obj] The hot weather *wilted* the plants.

2 [no obj] **a** : to become weak and tired especially because of hot weather • The crowd *wilted* in the heat. **b** : to lose energy, confidence, effectiveness, etc. • He *wilted* under the pressure.

2 *wilt* /ˈwɪlt/ second person singular present tense of WILL old-fashioned — used with “thou” • Do what thou *wilt*. [=do what you will]

wily /ˈwaɪli/ adj *wil-ly-er*; -est [also more ~; most ~] : full of clever tricks : very clever • She turned out to be a *wily* negotiator. • *wily* tactics

— *wil-ly-ness* /ˈwaɪlɪnəs/ noun [noncount]

1 *wimp* /ˈwɪmp/ noun, pl *wimps* [count] informal : a weak person who lacks confidence, courage, etc. • I was too much of a *wimp* [=coward] to confront him.

2 *wimp* verb

wimp out [phrasal verb] informal : to fail to do something because you are too afraid, weak, etc. • He wanted to ask her to the dance but he *wimped out*.

wim-ple /ˈwɪmpəl/ noun, pl *wim-ples* [count] : a cloth worn over the head and around the neck and chin by women in past times and by some nuns today

1 *win* /ˈwɪn/ verb wins; won /ˈwɒn/; win-ning

1 a : to achieve victory in a fight, contest, game, etc. [+ obj] The boxer *won* the match by knockout. • They *won* the battle/war. • She *won* the election. • He won't give up until he's *won* the argument. • Neither candidate *won* the debate. • We tried our best, but *you can't win them all*. [no obj] They played well, but they didn't *win*. • The chances of *winning* are 1 in 100,000. • It's not about *winning* or losing. It's about having fun. • Okay, *you win*. [=I agree to do what you want] We'll go to the movies. **b** [+ obj] : to get (something, such as a prize) by achieving victory in a fight, contest, game, etc. • She *won* a tennis trophy. • Her book *won* the Pulitzer Prize.

2 [+ obj] : to get (something) by effort • She *won* praise for her hard work. • His perseverance *won* him the job of his dreams. [=he got the job of his dreams because of his perseverance]

3 [+ obj] : to persuade (someone) to like you or to choose you • She *won* the voters with her warm sense of humor. • He broke up with his girlfriend but he's determined to *win* her back. [=to get her back; to persuade her to be his girlfriend again] • He'll do anything to *win her heart*. [=to get her to fall in love with him]

can't win informal — used to say that success is not possible for someone in a particular situation • I feel like I *can't win*. Nothing I do seems to make any difference. • *You can't win* when you're dealing with someone so unreasonable.

win or lose : whether you succeed or fail • *Win or lose*, we'll give it our best effort.

win out also Brit *win through* [phrasal verb] : to achieve victory or success after dealing with many difficulties • It was a challenge, but we *won out* in the end.

win over [phrasal verb] **win (someone) over** : to persuade (someone) to accept and support something (such as an idea) after opposing it • They eventually *won him over* with some persuasive arguments.

²win *noun, pl wins* [count] : an act of achieving victory especially in a game or contest : VICTORY • a pitcher with 15 *wins* • Their *win* over the first place team was unexpected. — opposite LOSS

wince /'wɪns/ *verb* **winc-es; winced; winc-ing** [no obj] : to have an expression on your face for a very short time which shows that you are embarrassed or in pain • She *winc-ed* [=grimaced] (in pain) when she hit her elbow. • I *wince* [=cringe] with embarrassment whenever I think of that day.

— **wince** *noun, pl winces* [count]

winch /'wɪntʃ/ *noun, pl winch-es* [count] : a machine that has a rope or chain and that is used for pulling or lifting heavy things • a tow truck's *winch*

— **winch** *verb, always followed by an adverb or preposition* **winches; winched; winch-ing** [+ obj] • They *winched* the car out of the lake.

¹wind /'waɪnd/ *noun, pl winds*

1 : a natural movement of air outside [count] The storm was accompanied by northerly *winds*. • A gusty/light *wind* rustled the leaves. • strong/hard *winds* [noncount] The *wind* is blowing hard. • There isn't much *wind* today. — see also CROSSWIND, DOWNWIND, HEADWIND, TAILWIND, TRADE WIND, UPWIND, WHIRLWIND

2 [count] : something that has force or influence • the changing/shifting *winds* of political opinion • The *winds of change* have begun to blow. [=change is going to happen; change is in the air] • Her political opinions depend on *which way the wind is blowing* [=what opinions are popular at the time]

3 [noncount] : the ability to breathe normally • I needed to rest to get my *wind* back after the climb. [=to stop breathing hard and begin to breathe normally] • The fall *knocked the wind out of me* [=knocked the air out of my lungs and made me unable to breathe normally for a brief time] — see also SECOND WIND

4 [noncount] *Brit* : gas in the stomach or intestines • Certain foods give me *wind*. [= (US) gas]

5 winds [plural] *music* : musical instruments (such as flutes and horns) that are played by blowing air into them : wind instruments

break wind : to pass gas out of the anus

catch/get wind of (something) : to hear about (something private or secret) • They *got wind of* our plans for a party. • The police *caught wind of* the plot.

get/have the wind up *Brit, informal* : to become/be afraid or nervous • When they started questioning him, he *got the wind up*.

in the wind : about to happen • Change is *in the wind*.

like the wind : very fast • He grabbed the money and *ran like the wind*

put the wind up (someone) *Brit, informal* : to make (someone) afraid or nervous • I tried to *put the wind up* him by threatening to call the police.

sail close to the wind see ¹SAIL

straw in the wind see STRAW

take the wind out of someone's sails : to cause someone to lose confidence or energy • The team's star player was injured and it really *took the wind out of their sails*.

three sheets to the wind see ²SHEET

throw/flip/cast caution to the wind see ¹CAUTION

²wind /'waɪnd/ *verb* **winds; wound** /'waʊnd/; **wind-ing**

1 of a river, road, etc. : to follow a series of curves and turns [no obj] The river *winds* through the valley. • *winding* lanes/roads/streets [+ obj] The river *winds* its way through the valley.

2 [+ obj] : to wrap (something, such as a string) around something • He *wound* more twine around the box. • *wind* thread on a spool • She *wound* the scarf around her neck. • The machine *winds* the tape from one reel to the other.

3 [+ obj] : to turn a knob, handle, etc., several times on something (such as a clock) so that it can work • *wind* a clock • Her watch needs to be *wound* once a year. • To start the old car, you have to *wind* the crank. — often + up • *wind up* a toy train

wind down [phrasal verb] **1** : to end gradually • The party was *winding down*. **2** : to relax and stop thinking about work, problems, etc. : UNWIND • I intend to *wind down* with a good book this weekend.

wind up [phrasal verb] **1** : to end • The meeting should be *winding up* soon. **2** **wind (something) up or wind up (something)** : to end or complete (something) • It's time to *wind up* the meeting. • It's getting late so let's *wind things up*. **3** : to reach or come to a place, situation, or condition that was not planned or expected • They *wound up* [=ended up] being millionaires. • Although she studied art, she *wound up* [=ended up] working in publishing. • After a wrong turn, we *wound up* in an unfamiliar neighborhood.

— see also ²WIND 3 (above), WOUND UP

— **wind-er** /'waɪndə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count] • a bobbin/clock *winder*

wind-bag /'waɪnd,bæg/ *noun, pl -bags* [count] *informal + disapproving* : a person who talks too much • a pompous old *windbag*

wind-blown /'waɪnd,bloʊn/ *adj*

1 : carried through the air by the wind • *windblown* pollen

2 : made messy by the wind • *windblown* hair

wind-break /'waɪnd,breɪk/ *noun, pl -breaks* [count] : something (such as a fence or group of trees) that protects an area from the wind

Wind-break-er /'waɪnd,breɪkə/ *trademark* — used for a light jacket that protects you from the wind

wind-burn /'waɪnd,bɜːn/ *noun* [noncount] : a red and sore area on the skin that is caused by cold or very strong wind • His face was red from *windburn*.

— **wind-burned** /'waɪnd,bɜːnd/ *adj* • *windburned* skin

wind-cheat-er /'waɪnd,tʃiːtə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count] *Brit* : a light jacket that protects you from the wind

wind-chill /'waɪnd,tʃɪl/ *noun, pl -chills* *chiefly US*

1 [noncount] : the effect that wind has of making air feel colder than it actually is • It's cold outside, and it feels even colder because of the *windchill*. — called also *windchill factor*

2 [count] : a temperature that shows how cold the air feels because of the wind • Expect *windchills* in the 20s tonight.

wind chime *noun, pl ~ chimes* [count] : a collection of objects made from metal, glass, etc., that hang together from strings and touch each other to make a musical sound when they are blown by the wind — usually plural

wind-ed /'waɪndəd/ *adj* : unable to breathe easily or normally because you have been running, climbing, etc. • We were *winded* [=out of breath] after the long climb. — see also LONG-WINDED

wind-fall /'waɪnd,fɔːl/ *noun, pl -falls* [count] : an unexpected amount of money that you get as a gift, prize, etc. • They received a *windfall* because of the tax cuts.

wind instrument *noun, pl ~ -ments* [count] : a musical instrument (such as a flute, horn, or organ) that is played by blowing air through it — compare BRASS, WOODWIND

wind-jam-mer /'waɪnd,dʒæmə/ *noun, pl -mers* [count] : a sailing ship

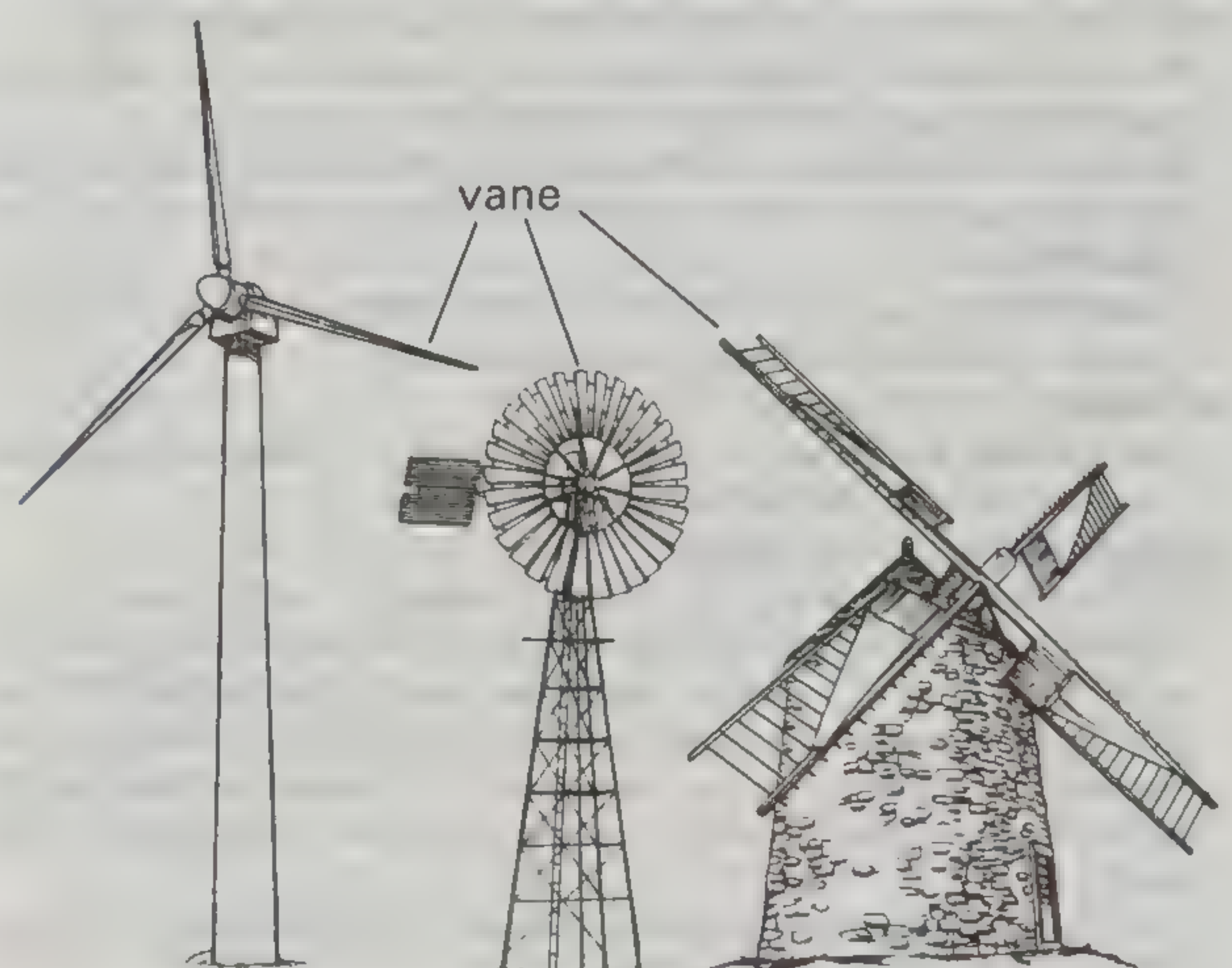
wind-lass /'waɪndləs/ *noun, pl -lass-es* [count] : WINCH

wind-mill /'waɪnd,mɪl/ *noun, pl -mills* [count]

1 : a structure that has parts which are turned around by the wind and that is used to produce power, pump water, etc.

2 *Brit* : PINWHEEL 1

tilt at windmills see ¹TILT



wind turbine

windmills

win·dow /ˈwɪndəʊ/ noun, pl -dows

1 [count] **a** : an opening in a wall, door, etc., that usually contains a sheet of glass • She opened a *window* to let in some air. • I looked out the *window* and saw a deer. — see also BAY WINDOW, FRENCH WINDOW, PICTURE WINDOW, ROSE WINDOW, STORM WINDOW **b** : a sheet of glass that covers an opening in a building, vehicle, etc. • He used vinegar and water to wash the *windows*. • He accidentally broke a *window*. • Can you roll down the car *window*? **c** : a large window at the front of a store where goods are displayed so that they can be seen by people who are walking past • The *windows* along 5th Avenue were all decorated for Christmas. • I saw a beautiful dress in the *window*. **d** : an opening in a wall through which business is conducted • He sits behind a *window* and sells movie tickets. • a ticket *window* • a bank teller's *window*

2 [count] : a part of something that you can see through • Make sure the address shows through the *window* in the envelope. • A *window* opened in the fog and we could finally see the ocean.

3 [count] : an area or box on a computer screen that shows a program that is currently running • Minimize that *window* and open a new one. • Close all the *windows* and restart the computer. — see picture at COMPUTER

4 [singular] : a period of time during which something can happen • The shuttle's launch has a *window* of only two days. [=it can only happen within two specific days] • The *window of opportunity* [=the time during which there is a chance to do something] has closed/ended.

a window into/on : something that makes it possible to see or understand something clearly • This knowledge opens a *window into* your opponent's mind. • The book gives the reader a *window on* war.

go out the window informal : to stop being used or thought about • By that point in the argument, reason had *gone out the window*.

throw (something) out the window informal : to stop using or thinking about (something) • We can *throw* that idea *out the window*.

window box noun, pl ~ boxes [count] : a long, thin box that is usually hung on the outside of a building beneath a window and that is used as a container for flowers and plants

window dresser noun, pl ~ ers [count] : a person whose job is to decorate and arrange products to display in a store window

window dressing noun [noncount]

1 : the act of decorating and arranging products to display in a store window

2 *disapproving* : something that is intended to make a person or thing seem better or more attractive but that does not have any real importance or effect • These changes are being made for a good reason. They're not just *window dressing*.

win·dow·less /ˈwɪndəʊləs/ adj : not having a window • a *windowless* room

win·dow·pane /ˈwɪndəʊ,peɪn/ noun, pl -panes [count] : a piece of glass that covers an opening in a window • Ice had formed on the *windowpane*. — see picture at WINDOW

window seat noun, pl ~ seats [count]

1 : a seat that is built or placed below a window

2 : the seat that is closest to the window on a plane, train, bus, etc.

window shade noun, pl ~ shades [count] US : a roll of cloth or plastic that is hung at the top of a window and that can be pulled down to cover the window — called also *blind*, (US) *shade*; see picture at WINDOW

win·dow·shop /ˈwɪndəʊ,ʃɑ:p/ verb -shops; -shopped; -shop·ping [no obj] : to walk in front of stores and look at the products displayed in the windows without buying anything • I like to *window-shop* when I'm in the city.

– **window shopper** noun, pl ~ -pers [count] – **window-shopping** noun [noncount] • We went *window-shopping* last weekend.

win·dow·sill /ˈwɪndəʊ,sɪl/ noun, pl -sills [count] : a narrow shelf that is attached to the bottom of a window — see picture at WINDOW

wind·pipe /ˈwɪnd,paɪp/ noun, pl -pipes [count] : the tube in your neck and chest that carries air into and out of your lungs : TRACHEA • She got something stuck in her *windpipe*.

wind·proof /ˈwɪndˈpru:f/ adj [more ~; most ~] : not allowing wind to enter or move through • a *windproof* jacket

wind·screen /ˈwɪnd,skri:n/ noun, pl -screens [count] Brit : WINDSHIELD 1

windscreen wiper noun, pl ~ -ers [count] Brit : WINDSHIELD WIPER

wind·shield /ˈwɪnd,ʃi:ld/ noun, pl -shields [count]

1 US : the window at the front of a car, truck, etc., that protects the driver and passengers • The car had a *damaged windshield*. — called also (Brit) *windscreen*; see picture at CAR

2 : a piece of glass above the handlebars of a motorcycle that protects the rider

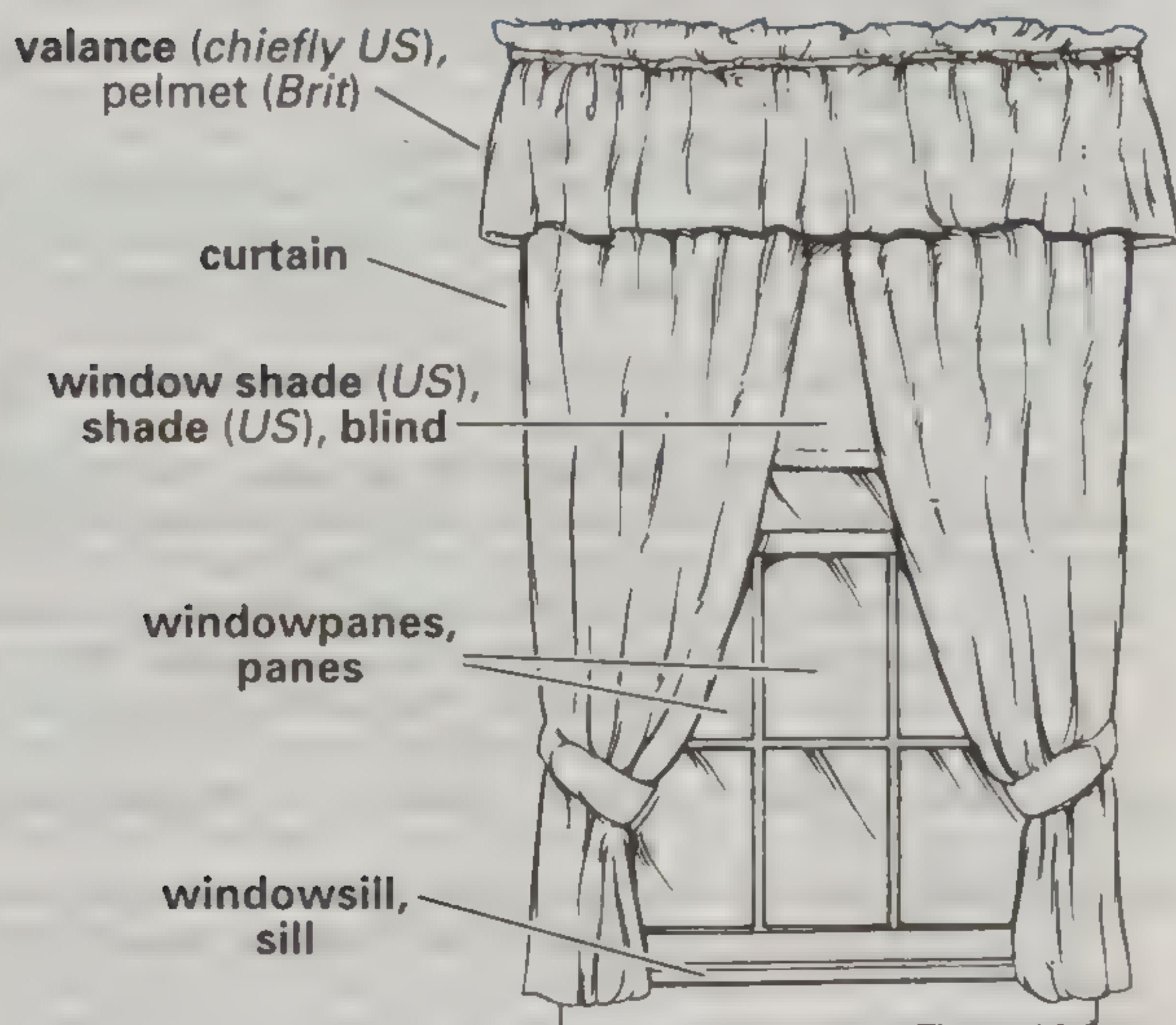
windshield wiper noun, pl ~ -ers [count] US : a long, thin piece of rubber on a metal frame that moves back and forth and pushes water, snow, etc., off the surface of a windshield — called also (Brit) *windscreen wiper*; see picture at CAR

wind·sock /ˈwɪnd,sɔ:k/ noun, pl -socks [count] : a large fabric tube that is placed on a pole and used to show the direction of the wind

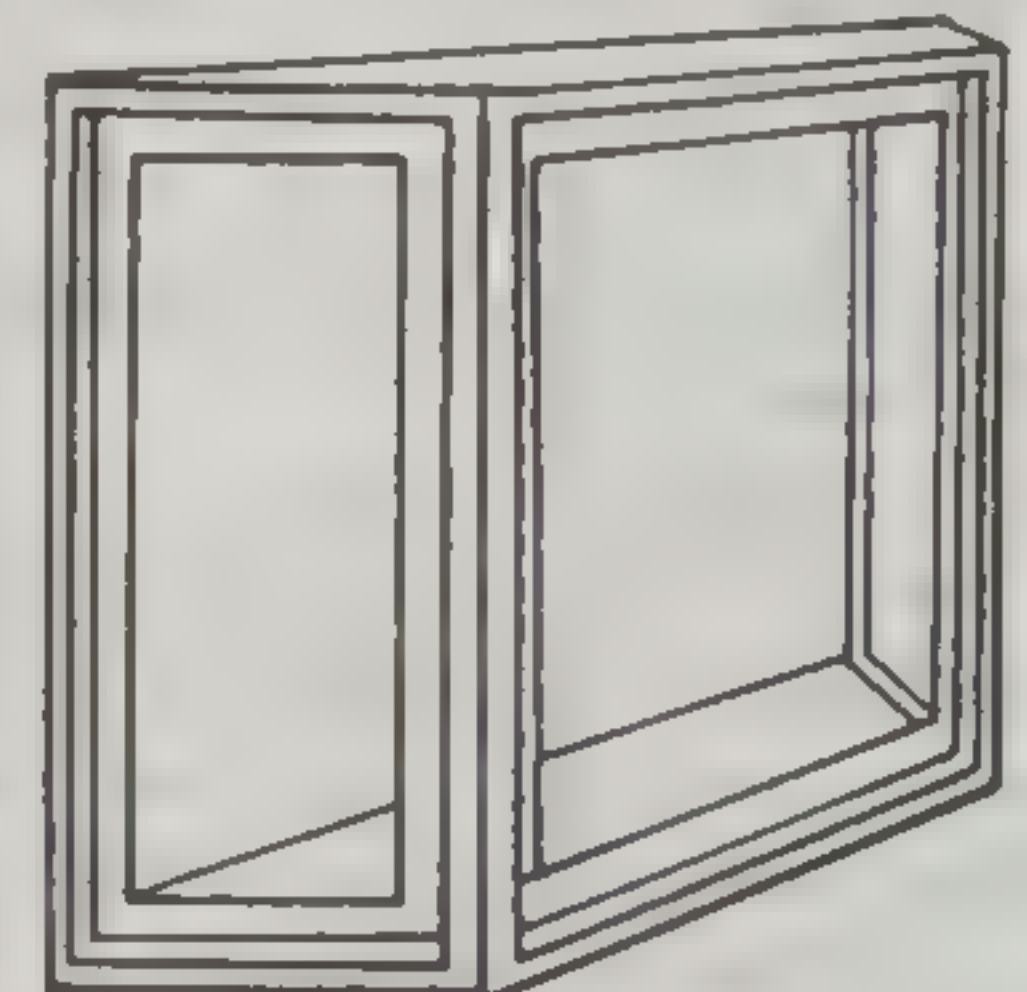
wind·storm /ˈwɪnd,sto:ɹm/ noun, pl -storms [count] : a storm that has very strong winds and usually very little rain or snow

wind·surf /ˈwɪnd,sɜ:f/ verb -surfs; -surfed; -surf·ing [no obj] : to ride along the surface of the water while standing on

window



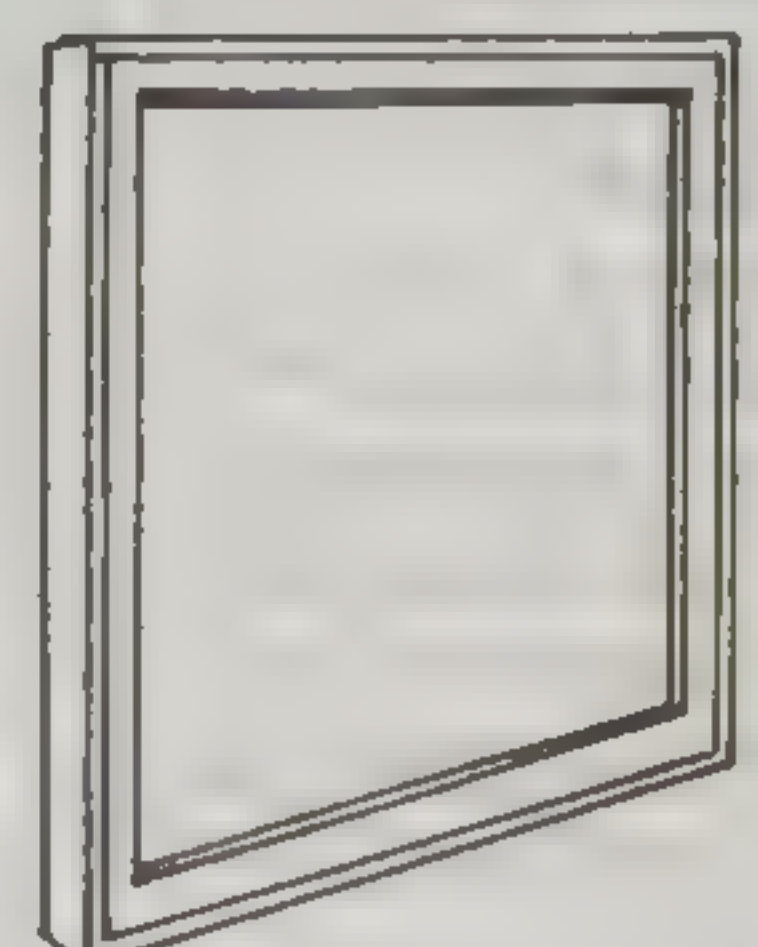
double-hung window (US),
sash window (Brit)



bay window



casement, casement window



picture window

a long, narrow board that has a sail attached • He *windsurfed* in Hawaii last summer.

– **wind-surf-er** *noun*, *pl* **-ers** [*count*] • She is a talented *windsurfer*. [=sailboarder] – **wind-surf-ing** /'wind,səfɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] • We went *windsurfing* [=sailboarding] in Hawaii.

Wind-surf-er /'wind,səfə/ *trademark* — used for a long, narrow board that has a sail attached and that is used for windsurfing

wind-swept /'wind,swept/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : exposed to strong winds • the treeless, *windswept* mountaintops

2 : made messy by the wind • *windswept* hair • The sailors looked *windswept* and tired.

wind tunnel *noun*, *pl* ~ **-nels** [*count*] : a long, narrow room through which air is blown in order to test the effects of wind on an airplane, car, etc.

wind turbine *noun*, *pl* ~ **-bines** [*count*] : a tall structure that has large blades attached to an engine and that is used to produce electricity — see picture at WINDMILL

¹**wind-up** /'waɪnd,ʌp/ *noun* [*singular*]

1 : the things that are done at the end of something (such as an event or process) : the final part of something • the *wind-up* of the negotiations

2 *baseball* : the movements that a pitcher makes before the ball is thrown • He went into the/his *windup*, then threw the pitch. • a pitcher with an unusual *windup*

3 *wind-up Brit, informal* : something done or said in usually a joking way to make someone annoyed or upset • Her brother's act was just a *wind-up* to get her angry.

— see also *wind up* at ²WIND

²**windup** *adj*, *always used before a noun* : having a motor that is given power when someone turns a handle • *windup* toys • She has an old *windup* record player in her attic.

¹**wind-ward** /'windwəd/ *adj* : located on the side that is facing the direction that the wind is blowing from • The *wind-ward* side of the mountain was rocky and treeless. — compare LEEWARD

²**windward** *noun* [*noncount*] : the side or direction that the wind is blowing from • sail to *windward* — compare LEEWARD

windy /'windi/ *adj* **wind-i-er; -est**

1 : having a lot of wind • It's a *windy* day. • It's *windy* outside. • a *windy* part of the country

2 : using too many words • He gave a long, *windy* speech. • a *windy* politician

¹**wine** /'waɪn/ *noun*, *pl* **wines**

1 **a** : an alcoholic drink made from the juice of grapes [*count*] a dry/sweet *wine* [*noncount*] a glass/bottle of *wine* — see also BLUSH WINE, DESSERT WINE, RED WINE, TABLE WINE, WHITE WINE **b** : an alcoholic drink made from plants or fruits other than grapes [*noncount*] cooking with rice *wine* [*count*] apple, blueberry, and other fruit *wines*

2 [*noncount*] : a dark reddish-purple color

²**wine** *verb* **wines; wined; win-ing**

wine and dine : to entertain (someone) at a restaurant with good food, wine, etc. • The company *wined and dined* the prospective clients.

wine bar *noun*, *pl* ~ **bars** [*count*] : a bar that serves many different wines

wine cellar *noun*, *pl* ~ **-lars** [*count*] : an underground room where wines are stored; *also* : a collection of wines that are stored in such a room • She has built up an impressive *wine cellar* over the years.

wine list *noun*, *pl* ~ **lists** [*count*] : a list of wines that are available to be served at a restaurant

wine-mak-er /'waɪn,mekə/ *noun*, *pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person or company that makes wines • the biggest *winemaker* in Napa Valley

– **wine-mak-ing** /'waɪn,mekɪŋ/ *adj* • the *winemaking* regions of France [=the regions in France in which wine is made]

win-ery /'waɪnəri/ *noun*, *pl* **-er-ies** [*count*] : a place where wine is made • We took a tour of the *winery*.

wine steward *noun*, *pl* ~ **-ards** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a waiter in a restaurant who is in charge of serving wine — called also (*Brit*) *wine waiter*

wine tasting *noun*, *pl* ~ **-ings** [*count*] : an event where people can taste and compare very small samples of wine • We went to a *wine tasting*.

wine vinegar *noun*, *pl* ~ **-gars** [*count*, *noncount*] : a type

of vinegar that is made from wine • red/white/rice *wine vinegar*

win-ey or winy /'waɪni/ *adj* **win-i-er; -est** : made with wine or having the flavor of wine • beef in a *winey* sauce

¹**wing** /'wɪŋ/ *noun*, *pl* **wings**

1 [*count*] **a** : a part of an animal's body that is used for flying or gliding • a bird's *wing* • bat/insect *wings* — see picture at BIRD **b** : the wing of a bird and especially a chicken eaten as food — often plural • We ordered some *wings*. — see also BUFFALO WING

2 [*count*] : one of usually two long, flat parts of an airplane that extend from the sides and make it possible for the airplane to fly — see picture at AIRPLANE; see also WATER WINGS

3 [*count*] : a particular section of a large building • In the library's north *wing*, you'll find the current periodicals. • She works in the pediatric *wing* of the hospital. • The guest room is in the east *wing*.

4 **the wings** : the areas on the sides of a stage where performers wait before going onto the stage • She was standing *in the wings*, waiting for her cue. — often used figuratively • The issue has been *lurking/waiting in the wings* [=it has been waiting to be dealt with] for several years.

5 [*count*] **a** : a particular part of a large organization or group • The conservative *wing* of the party opposed the legislation. • the political *wing* of the organization **b** : a group of military airplanes • the 107th Fighter *Wing*

6 [*count*] *sports* : a person who plays on the offense in a position that is towards the sides of the playing area in sports like hockey and soccer • The left/right *wing* passed the ball to the center. — called also *winger*

7 [*count*] *Brit* : FENDER 1

clip someone's wings : to limit someone's ability to do or say things • They *clipped* his *wings* by withholding funding for his projects.

get your wings *chiefly US, informal* 1 : to officially become a pilot : to receive the license that allows you to fly an airplane, helicopter, etc. • The pilots all *got their wings* at the end of training. 2 : to gain experience in something • He *got his wings* as a volunteer by doing work in a soup kitchen.

on a wing and a prayer *informal* : without much chance of success • She took the job *on a wing and a prayer*.

on the wing : in flight • The birds were *on the wing*. [=were flying]

spread your wings : to become more independent and confident : to try doing new things • He's known as a comic actor, but he's *spreading his wings* and trying a serious role in his new movie. • College gave her a chance to *spread her wings*.

take (someone) under your wing : to help, teach, or take care of (someone who is younger or has less experience than you) • He *took* the rookie pitcher *under his wing*. • She *took me under her wing* and showed me how things were done.

take wing : to begin to fly • The ducks *took wing* and flew away. — often used figuratively • Let your imagination *take wing* and explore the possibilities.

– **wing-like** /'wɪŋ,lak/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] • an animal with *winglike* appendages

²**wing** *verb* **wings; winged; wing-ing**

1 : to travel to a place by flying there [*no obj*] The team *winged* to Moscow for the finals. • *winging* across the country [*+ obj*] She *winged her way* to Paris [=she flew to Paris] for the weekend.

2 [*+ obj*] *US, informal* : to throw (something) forcefully • She *winged* the ball over to first base.

3 [*+ obj*] *US, informal* : to touch or hit (someone or something) especially in the arm or wing while moving past : GRAZE • The soldier was *winged* by a stray bullet.

wing it *informal* : to do or try to do something without much practice or preparation • I hadn't practiced the part, so I got up there and *winged it*. • We weren't sure what we were doing. We were just *winging it*.

wing-back chair /'wɪŋ,bæk-/ *noun*, *pl* ~ **chairs** [*count*] : WING CHAIR

wing chair *noun*, *pl* ~ **chairs** [*count*] : a comfortable chair that has a high back with pieces that extend forward at the sides

wing collar *noun*, *pl* ~ **-lar** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : a type of high, stiff shirt collar that has the top corners turned down and that is worn by a man on formal occasions

wing commander *noun*, *pl* ~ **-ers** [count] : a high-ranking officer in the British air force

winged /'wɪŋd/ *adj* : having wings • birds and other winged creatures

wing-er /'wɪŋə/ *noun*, *pl* **-ers** [count] : ¹WING 6

wing-less /'wɪŋləs/ *adj* : having no wings • a wingless insect

wing-man /'wɪŋmən/ *noun*, *pl* **wing-men** /-mən/ [count] : a pilot or airplane that flies behind and outside the leader of a group of airplanes in order to provide support or protection — often used figuratively • She was my wingman [=she helped me] on the project.

wing mirror *noun*, *pl* ~ **-rors** [count] *Brit* : SIDE-VIEW MIRROR

wing nut *noun*, *pl* ~ **nuts** [count] : a piece of metal that has a hole in the center and two projecting parts and that you can screw onto a bolt by using your fingers

wing-span /'wɪŋspæn/ *noun*, *pl* **-spans** [count] : the distance from the tip of one wing of a bird or airplane to the tip of the other wing • The hawk has a wingspan of about three feet. • a plane with a 200-foot wingspan

wing-tip /'wɪŋtɪp/ *noun*, *pl* **-tips** [count]

1 : the pointed end of a wing • a bird with a red head and black wingtips • The wingtip of the plane almost touched the ground.

2 US : a type of usually leather shoe that is worn by a man and that has an extra piece of leather that covers the toe — see picture at SHOE

¹**wink** /'wɪŋk/ *noun*, *pl* **winks** [count]

1 : an act of closing and opening one eye very quickly often as a way of giving a secret signal or private message to someone • Her wink told me she was just kidding. • "I knew you could do it," he said with a wink. • He told her that he was working late, then gave me a wink. [=winked at me]

2 informal : a very short amount of time • It all disappeared in a wink. [=in an instant] • She said hello, and (as) quick as a wink [=instantly], she was gone. • I didn't get a wink of sleep last night. = I didn't sleep a wink last night. [=I didn't sleep at all last night] — see also FORTY WINKS

tip (someone) the wink see ⁶TIP

²**wink** *verb* **winks; winked; wink-ing**

1 a : to close and open one eye quickly as a signal to someone • He winked and said that he understood. — often + *at* [no obj] She winked at me as she asked what I was doing tonight. [+ obj] She winked an eye at me. **b** [no obj] : to close and open your eyes quickly : BLINK • The puppy was winking in the bright sun.

2 [no obj] **a** : to shine in an unsteady way : TWINKLE • The stars winked in the night sky. **b** : to shine with a light that goes on and off : BLINK • The airplane's landing lights winked on and off.

wink at [phrasal verb] **wink at (someone or something)** : to pretend that you have not seen or noticed (something) : IGNORE • The city cops wink at the mayor's parking violations. — see also ²WINK 1 (above)

win-kle /'wɪŋkəl/ *verb* **win-kles; win-kled; win-king**

winkle out [phrasal verb] *Brit* **1 winkle out (something) or winkle (something) out of (someone)** : to use a lot of effort to get (information) from a person • It was hard to winkle out the facts. • They winkled a confession out of him. **2 winkle (someone or something) out of (something)** : to remove (someone or something) from (a place or position) by using a lot of effort • They were winkled out of their hiding places.

win-na-ble /'wɪnəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : able to be won • The game is no longer winnable. • We are fighting a winnable battle.

win-ner /'wɪnə/ *noun*, *pl* **-ners** [count]

1 : someone or something that wins a contest, prize, etc. • The winners will receive their medals shortly. • the winners and losers of the court case • And the winner is . . . the blue team! • You are the grand prize winner! [=the person who has won the grand prize]

2 informal : a very good or successful person or thing • She's a real winner. • That idea's a winner.

3 sports : the final goal, point, etc., that wins a game • With seconds left on the clock, she scored the winner. — often used in combination • She scored the game-winner.

winner's circle *noun*, *pl* ~ **circles** [count] : an area where the winner of a game, contest, etc., receives his or her award • The jockey and horse approached the winner's circle. — sometimes used figuratively • Neither golfer has been in the winner's circle [=neither golfer has won] for several years.

win-ning /'wɪnɪŋ/ *adj*

1 always used before a noun : relating to or producing a win • the winning lottery ticket • She scored the winning goal. • The team is on a 12-game winning streak. [=it has won 12 games in a row]

2 always used before a noun : successful at something • They were a winning marketing team.

3 [more ~; most ~] : pleasing or attractive to other people • a winning smile • Chocolate and mint is a winning combination.

— **win-ning-ly** /'wɪnɪŋli/ *adv* • He smiled winningly.

win-ning-est /'wɪnɪŋəst/ *adj*, always used before a noun, *US* : having the greatest number of wins : most successful • She's the winningest coach in the conference. • the winningest team in our school's history

winning post *noun* [singular] *Brit* : a post that marks the end of a race

win-nings /'wɪnɪŋz/ *noun* [plural] : money that is won in a game or contest • The contestant's winnings totaled \$25,000. • Collect your winnings at the ticket booth.

win-now /'wɪnəʊ/ *verb* **-nows; -nowed; -now-ing** [+ obj]

1 : to remove (people or things that are less important, desirable, etc.) from a larger group or list • The least qualified applicants were winnowed out of the initial pool. : to make (a list of possible choices) smaller by removing the less desirable choices • The list of candidates has been winnowed [=narrowed down, whittled down] to five. — often + *down* • He needs to winnow down his options.

2 : to remove (the unwanted coverings of seeds) from grain by throwing the grain up in the air and letting the wind blow the unwanted parts away • Harvesters winnowed the chaff from the wheat.

wino /'wainəʊ/ *noun*, *pl* **win-os** [count] *informal* + *disapproving* : a person who has no place to live and who is often drunk

win-some /'wɪnsəm/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *formal* : cheerful, pleasant, and appealing • He had a winsome, boyish smile.

— **win-some-ly** *adv* • a winsomely written story — **win-some-ness** *noun* [noncount]

¹**win-ter** /'wɪntə/ *noun*, *pl* **-ters** : the coldest season of the year that is after autumn and before spring [count] They spend winters in Florida. • We're in for a cold winter this year, I hear. • She traveled there two winters ago. [noncount] in early/late winter • the last day of winter — often used before another noun • the winter months • a cold winter day • the company's winter catalog • winter clothes/coats/gloves • winter storms/weather • the winter holidays • We went there during winter vacation. • winter wheat [=a type of wheat that is planted in autumn and not harvested until the following spring or summer]

²**winter** *verb* **-ters; -tered; -ter-ing**

1 [no obj] : to spend the winter in a particular place • The birds will winter in the southern part of the country. • My family winters in Florida.

2 [+ obj] : to care for or manage (animals) during the winter • The farm agreed to winter our horses for us.

win-ter-ize /'wɪntəraɪz/ *verb* **-iz-es; -ized; -iz-ing** [+ obj] *US* : to make (something) able to resist the effects of winter weather • They are winterizing their cars by adding antifreeze and putting on snow tires.

winter sport *noun*, *pl* ~ **sports** [count] : a sport (such as ice hockey or skiing) that takes place in the winter on ice or snow

winter squash *noun*, *pl* ~ **squash** or ~ **squashes** [count, noncount] *US* : any one of several vegetables (such as acorn squashes and butternut squashes) that are grown until their shell and seeds are hard and that can be stored for several months — compare SUMMER SQUASH

win-ter-time /'wɪntətaɪm/ *noun* [noncount] : the season of winter • We enjoy skiing in the wintertime.

win-try /'wɪntri/ also **win-tery** /'wɪntəri/ *adj* **win-tri-er; -est** [also more ~; most ~]

1 : relating to, happening during, or typical of winter • dark, wintry days • a wintry mix of sleet and snow

2 literary : not cheerful or friendly • She gave me a wintry welcome.

win-win /'wɪn'wɪn/ *adj*, always used before a noun : providing a good result for everyone involved • This is a win-win situation/deal.

winy variant spelling of WINEY

¹**wipe** /'waɪp/ *verb* **wipes; wiped; wip-ing** [+ obj]

1 : to clean or dry (something) by using a towel, your hand, etc. • Would you *wipe* the dishes? • She *wiped* her eyes with a tissue.

2 : to remove (something) by rubbing • *Wipe* your tears. • We were *wiping* the spots from the wine glasses. — often used figuratively • She has *wiped* [=erased] the entire conversation from her mind. [=she has forgotten the entire conversation] • The explosion *wiped* the island off the map. [=it completely destroyed the island] • Their enemies have vowed to *wipe* them off the face of the earth. [=to destroy them completely; to annihilate them]

3 : to move (something) over a surface • He *wiped* his hand across his forehead.

4 chiefly Brit : to completely remove recorded material from (a tape or disk) • You can *wipe* [=erase] the tape/disk and use it again.

wipe away [phrasal verb] *wipe* (something) away or *wipe away* (something) : to remove (something) by rubbing • *Wipe away* grease with our all-purpose cleaner. • He *wiped* her tears away. — often used figuratively • You cannot simply *wipe away* the history of this country.

wipe down [phrasal verb] *wipe* (something) down or *wipe down* (something) : to clean (a surface) by rubbing it with a cloth • He *wiped down* the counters with a wet cloth. • I *wiped* the car down with a towel.

wipe off [phrasal verb] **1** *wipe* (someone or something) off or *wipe off* (someone or something) : to clean (someone or something) by using a towel, your hand, etc. • I *wiped off* the baby and took him out of the high chair. • She *wiped* the counters off. **2** *wipe* (something) off or *wipe off* (something) : to remove (something) by rubbing • I *wiped* the food off the baby's face. • She *wiped off* the oil from the counter. — often used figuratively in British English • More than a billion pounds have been *wiped off* share prices. [=the value of share prices has been reduced by more than a billion pounds]

wipe out [phrasal verb] **1** *US, informal* : to fall down violently especially when riding a bicycle, surfing, skiing, etc. • The cyclist *wiped out* coming around the curve. — see also WIPEOUT **2** *wipe* (someone or something) out or *wipe out* (someone or something) : to kill or destroy (someone or something) completely • Drought *wiped out* our crops this year. • Doctors think they can *wipe out* the disease. • One bad investment could *wipe out* your life savings. **3** *wipe* (someone) out : to make (someone) very tired • That game completely *wiped me out*. — see also WIPED OUT

wipe (something) clean **1** : to clean (something) by wiping • I *wiped* the table clean. **2** : to completely remove something from (something) : to remove everything from (something) — usually used as (be) *wiped clean* • The computer's hard drive has been *wiped clean*. • After the accident, his memory of the day was *wiped clean*. [=he could not remember anything about the day]

wipe that/the smile/smirk/grin off someone's face informal : to stop smiling or to make someone stop smiling or feeling happy • She couldn't *wipe the smile off her face*. [=she couldn't stop smiling] • He thinks he's won, but if I get my hands on him, I'll *wipe that smile off his face*! — often used to tell someone in an angry way to stop smiling • *Wipe that smile off your face*! This isn't a joke!

wipe the floor with informal : to beat or defeat (someone or something) completely • I thought I could beat him, but he *wiped the floor with me*.

wipe the slate clean : to forget all the things that have happened or been done and start doing something again : to start again from the very beginning • She wishes she could *wipe the slate clean* and start over in a different career.

wipe up [phrasal verb] *wipe* (something) up or *wipe up* (something) : to use a cloth to remove (something) from a surface • Will you *wipe up* that spill? • I *wiped* the milk up off the floor.

²wipe noun, pl *wipes* [count]

1 : a small, wet cloth that is used for cleaning • disposable *wipes* • baby *wipes* [=wipes used to clean babies]

2 : an act of cleaning or drying something by using a towel, your hand, etc. • With a *wipe*, the spill was gone. • I gave the table a quick *wipe*. [=I quickly *wiped* the table]

wiped /'waɪpt/ adj [more ~; most ~] *US, informal* : extremely tired : WIPED OUT • After my workout, I was *wiped*.

wiped out adj [more ~; most ~] *informal* : extremely tired • I am completely *wiped out*. — see also *wipe out* at ¹WIPE

wipe-out /'waɪp,aʊt/ noun, pl *-outs* [count] *US* : a sudden,

violent fall by someone who is riding a bicycle, surfing, skiing, etc. • The surfer had a nasty *wipeout*. — see also *wipe out* at ¹WIPE

wip-er /'waɪpə/ noun, pl *-ers* [count] : WINDSHIELD WIPER

¹wire /'waɪə/ noun, pl *wires*

1 : a thin, flexible thread of metal [noncount] The flowers were bound together with thin *wire*. • copper/aluminum *wire* • a *wire* rack/fence • *wire* brushes [count] There was a *wire* sticking out of the chair. — see also BARBED WIRE, BARB-WIRE, CHICKEN WIRE, HIGH WIRE, TRIPWIRE, UNDERWIRE

2 [count] : a thread of metal that is covered with plastic, rubber, etc., and used to send or receive electricity or electrical signals • A telephone *wire* had fallen on the road during the storm. • A short black *wire* connects the computer's monitor to its keyboard. • corroded *wires* — see also LIVE WIRE

3 [singular] *US* : a small microphone that is worn under clothing in order to secretly record a conversation • The undercover officer wore a *wire* to her meeting with the drug dealer.

4 chiefly US **a** [noncount] : a service that sends news stories from one central office to many newspapers, magazines, television stations, etc. • This story just came over the *wire*. [=wire service] **b** [count] : TELEGRAM • They just received a *wire* from their daughter.

5 the wire *US* : a thin piece of string that the winner of a race breaks through at the end of the race • She was ahead by two seconds at *the wire*. • The marathon ended in a sprint to *the wire* by the two top runners. — often used figuratively • Both candidates are prepared for a sprint to *the wire* as election day approaches. • The committee was undecided *right up to the wire*. [=until the very end] • We *took them to the wire* in last year's championship. [=we forced them to compete very hard against us until the end of the game] • The election *went/came (right) down to the wire*. [=the election was not decided until the very end]

get/have your wires crossed informal, of two people : to fail to understand each other : to be confused because each person has a different idea about what is happening or being said • We *got our wires crossed* for a minute there—I thought you were asking me something else. • We must have *had our wires crossed*.

under the wire chiefly US : before something ends : at the end of the time when it is still possible to do something • Her application got/came in *just under the wire*. [=just in time]

wire to wire chiefly US, sports : from the beginning of a race, game, etc., until the end • He led the race (from) *wire to wire*. — see also WIRE-TO-WIRE

— **wire-like** /'waɪə-laɪk/ adj [more ~; most ~] • the animal's stiff, *wirelike* hairs

²wire verb *wires; wired; wir-ing* [+ obj]

1 a : to provide (a building, room, etc.) with wires for a particular service or for electricity • The house will be *wired* next week. • My room is *wired* for cable. **b** : to connect (a device) to another device by using wires • The microphone is *wired* to the speaker. • You can *wire* the generator to a car battery. — see also HOT-WIRE

2 : to use wire to close or hold (something) • Her jaw was *wired* shut after the accident.

3 a : to send (money) by using electronic methods • She *wired* the money home to Canada. • Can you *wire* me \$300?

b chiefly US, old-fashioned : to send a telegram to (someone) • When you get in to town, *wire* me.

wire cutters noun [plural] : a tool that is used for cutting wire • a pair of *wire cutters*

wired adj

1 [more ~; most ~] *chiefly US, informal* : very excited or full of nervous energy • No more caffeine for me, I'm pretty *wired*. • a group of *wired* teenagers • She's a nice girl but she's *wired* (a little) too tight/tightly. [=she's too nervous or too energetic]

2 : connected to the Internet • a *wired* classroom

3 — used to say that someone does or does not have a natural tendency to behave in a certain way, to like something, etc. • I'm just not *wired* to like broccoli. • Everyone's brain is *wired* differently. — see also HARDWIRED

wire fraud noun [noncount] : the crime of stealing money by using computers, telephones, etc. • He was charged with *wire fraud*.

wire-haired /'waɪə'heəd/ adj, of animals : having an outer coat of hair that is very stiff like wire • *wirehaired* dogs

¹wire-less /'waɪələs/ adj

1 : not using wires to send and receive electronic signals : sending and receiving electronic signals by using radio waves • The video game console comes with *wireless* controllers. • a *wireless* microphone

2 : of or relating to the use of radio waves to send and receive electronic signals • The café offers free *wireless* Internet access. • *wireless* communications • (US) I got a new cell phone from my *wireless* provider. [=from the company that provides me with cell phone service]

2 *wireless* noun, pl *-less-es* [count] chiefly Brit; old-fashioned : ¹RADIO • She listened to the *wireless* every Monday night.

wire service noun, pl ~ *-vices* [count] : a news organization that sends news stories to many newspapers, magazines, etc. • The story was reported by several *wire services*.

1 *wire-tap* /'wajə,tæp/ noun, pl *-taps* [count]

1 : a device that allows someone to secretly listen to phone conversations : TAP • Federal agents put a *wiretap* on his phone.

2 : a conversation that has been recorded using a wiretap • Investigators listened to the *wiretaps* for clues about the suspect's whereabouts.

2 *wiretap* verb *-taps; -tapped; -tap·ping* [+ obj] : to place a device on (someone's phone) in order to secretly listen to telephone calls : TAP • The FBI *wiretapped* his phone.

— *wire-tap·per* /'wajə,tæpə/ noun, pl *-pers* [count] • *Wire-tappers* bugged her phone.

wiretapping noun [noncount] : the act of secretly placing a microphone inside a telephone in order to hear and record private conversations • *Wiretapping* is illegal without a court order. — called also (Brit) *phone tapping*

wire-to-wire adj, chiefly US, sports — used to describe a race, game, etc., in which someone leads from the beginning until the end • He achieved a *wire-to-wire* win/victory in last year's race. • He was the *wire-to-wire* winner. — see also *wire to wire* at ¹WIRE

wire wool noun [noncount] Brit : STEEL WOOL

wiring noun [noncount] : the system of wires that carry electricity in a particular place, device, etc. • All the *wiring* in the house needs to be replaced. • He fixed the radio's *wiring*.

wiry /'wajəri/ adj *wir·i·er* /'wairijə/; *-est* [or more ~; most ~]

1 : very thin but strong and muscular • a man with long, *wiry* arms • She was lean and *wiry* from years of working out.

2 : stiff like wire • He has dark, *wiry* hair. • the dog's *wiry* coat/fur

Wis. or *Wisc.* abbr Wisconsin

wis·dom /'wɪzdəm/ noun [noncount]

1 *a* : knowledge that is gained by having many experiences in life • She has gained a lot of *wisdom* over the years. *b* : the natural ability to understand things that most other people cannot understand • a young person of great *wisdom* *c* : knowledge of what is proper or reasonable • He had the *wisdom* to stop before he said too much. : good sense or judgment • I fail to see the *wisdom* in doing that.

2 : advice or information given to a person • folk/divine *wisdom* • He shared a valuable bit of *wisdom* with his daughter. • These stories offer plenty of *wisdom* to readers. — see also CONVENTIONAL WISDOM

in someone's (infinite) wisdom — used in an ironic way to say that someone has made a foolish choice or decision • He decided, *in his infinite wisdom*, that it would be better to sell the house than to keep it.

pearls of wisdom see PEARL

wisdom tooth noun, pl ~ *teeth* [count] : one of four large teeth in the back of your mouth that do not appear until you are an adult

1 *wise* /'waɪz/ adj *wis·er; -est*

1 : having or showing wisdom or knowledge usually from learning or experiencing many things • a *wise* old woman • a *wise* saying • I'm a little *wiser* now than I was back then. — see also PENNY-WISE, STREETWISE

2 : based on good reasoning or information : showing good sense or judgment • The *wisest* course of action would be to leave. • It was *wise* of you to ask permission first. = You were *wise* to ask permission first. • That was a *wise* choice. • Many have benefited from her *wise* counsel/advice.

3 US, informal : saying things that are rude or insulting • Don't you get *wise* [=smart, fresh] with me, young man!

a word to the wise see ¹WORD

crack wise see ¹CRACK

none the wiser or not any the wiser **1** : not knowing or understanding anything more about something • The in-

vestigation has been going on for months, and we're still *none the wiser* about the true cause of the accident. [=we still don't know anything more about the true cause] **2** *also never the wiser* — used to describe someone who is not at all aware of something that has happened • I borrowed his car and returned it, and he was *none the wiser*. [=he did not know that I had borrowed his car] • We left early, and *no one was any the wiser*. [=no one noticed that we had left]

wise in the ways of : having knowledge about or experience with (someone or something) • Don't worry. They're *wise in the ways of* finances. • She is *wise in the ways of* the world.

wise to informal : not fooled by (someone or something) • I'm *wise to* you. = I'm *wise to* what you're doing. [=I know what you're doing; I know that you are trying to do something dishonest] : aware of (something, especially something dishonest) • When she *got wise to* [=became aware of] his scheme, she left. • He told me I'd better *get wise to* what was happening. • (chiefly US) Let me *put/make you wise to* [=tell you about] their plans.

— *wise·ly* adv [more ~; most ~] • The witness *wisely* refused to answer the question. • If you invest *wisely*, you can make a lot of money. • Try to choose your words more *wisely*.

2 *wise* verb *wis·es; wised; wis·ing*

wise up [phrasal verb] informal **1** : to become aware of what is really happening — often + *to* • They finally *wised up to* the fact that they were being cheated. **2** : to start to think and act in a more intelligent way • They could lose everything they have if they don't *wise up*. [=smarten up]

— *wise* /,waɪz/ combining form

1 *a* : in the position or direction of • *crosswise* [=in a direction that goes across something] • *lengthwise* *b* : in the manner of • moving *crabwise* [=moving like a crab]

2 informal : with regard to : CONCERNING • She has made some bad choices *career-wise*. [=she has made some bad choices about her career] • *Style-wise*, their music is very different from mine. [=the style of their music is very different from mine] • *Health-wise*, I'm doing fine. [=my health is fine]

wise·acre /'waɪz,eɪkə/ noun, pl *-acres* [count] chiefly US, informal + old-fashioned : a person who says or does things that are funny but also annoying : SMART-ALECK • Quit being such a *wiseacre* and help your mother.

wise·ass /'waɪz,æs/ noun, pl *-ass-es* [count] US, informal + impolite : a person who says things that are funny but also rude or offensive — usually singular • You're such a *wiseass*. • His *wiseass* comments got him thrown out of class.

wise·crack /'waɪz,kɹæk/ noun, pl *-cracks* [count] informal : a funny and smart comment or joke • Someone in the theater was making *wisecracks* during the entire movie.

— *wisecrack* verb *-cracks; -cracked; -crack·ing* [no obj] • She's always *wisecracking* [= (US) cracking wise] in class. • a *wisecracking* waitress • Quit your *wisecracking*.

wise guy /'waɪz,gai/ noun, pl ~ *guys* [count] informal

1 chiefly US : a person who says or does things that are funny but also annoying or somewhat rude • Quit being a *wise guy*. • No more *wise-guy* remarks, got it?

2 usually *wise·guy* US : someone who is part of a secret organized group of criminals : MOBSTER • a movie about two *wiseguys*

1 *wish* /'wɪʃ/ verb *wish·es; wished; wish·ing*

1 [+ obj] : to want (something) to be true or to happen • I *wish* (that) you were here. • I only *wish* (that) I knew what was going on. • He was *wishing* (that) she would leave him alone. • I *wish* (that) you would be quiet and listen to me.

2 [+ obj] formal : to want or ask to do (something) • You may use the telephone, if you *wish*. • You can *do as you wish*. [=you can do whatever you want to do] — often followed by *to* + verb • Ms. Jones *wishes to see* you. • I *wish to speak* with your supervisor. • He *wished to be* left alone.

3 [+ obj] *a* : to want (someone) to be in a particular state • I *wish* him well. [=I hope that good things happen to him] • She *wished* him dead. • I *wish* you no harm. [=I don't want to harm you; I don't want you to be harmed] — see also WELL-WISHER *b* : to say that you hope someone will have happiness, health, etc. • I *wish* you both much happiness. = I *wish* great happiness for you both. [=I hope that you will both be very happy] • She *wished* them a happy New Year. • We *wish* you a Merry Christmas. • I *wish* you luck [=I hope you will have good luck]

4 [no obj] *a* : to think about something that you want and hope that you will get it or that it will happen in some magi-

cal way : to make a wish • Children *wished* upon a star [=made a wish while looking at a star] in the hopes that their dreams would come true. — usually + *for* • She closed her eyes, *wished for* a pony, and blew out the candles on her birthday cake. **b** : to hope for something that usually cannot be had — + *for* • He *wished for* a second chance. • We all *wish for* world peace. • I couldn't *wish for* a better friend than you. [=you are the best friend I could have]

(be) careful what you wish for — used to tell people to think before they say that they want something and to suggest that they may not actually want it • You think having twins would be fun? *Be careful what you wish for*, you may just get it.

I wish or don't I wish informal — used to say that you want something to happen but that you know it will probably not happen • “Did he ask you to the dance?” “*I wish!*” [=I wish he would ask me to the dance but he hasn't] • “Will you be getting the job?” “*Don't I wish!*”

wish away [phrasal verb] wish (something) away or wish away (something) : to cause (something) to stop or go away just by wanting it to stop or go away • You can't just *wish* your problems *away*.

wish on [phrasal verb] wish (someone or something) on (someone) : to want (someone) to have or be affected by (someone or something bad or unpleasant) • I wouldn't *wish* that terrible illness *on* anyone. [=I wouldn't want anyone to have that terrible illness] • I wouldn't *wish* it *on* my worst enemy. • I wouldn't *wish* that man *on* any woman.

you wish or don't you wish informal — used to tell people in a rude way that it is unlikely that they will get what they want • Give you a kiss? *You wish.* [=dream on] • You think she's going to ask you out? *Don't you wish!*

²wish noun, pl wishes

1 [count] : a desire for something to happen or be done : a feeling of wanting to do or have something • Please respect my *wishes* [=please do what I want you to do] and leave me alone. • It is my *wish* that my estate go to my granddaughter. [=I want my estate to go to my granddaughter] • He has a *wish* to be reunited with his son. • She has expressed a *wish* to retire [=has said she wants to retire] within the next two years. • I *have no wish* [=I do not want] to interfere in your plans. • It was her *dying wish* to see them married. [=it was the last thing she wanted before she died] • They did it *against my wishes*. [=they did it even though they knew that I did not want them to do it] • They *went against their parents' wishes* and got married. [=they got married even though they knew that their parents did not want them to] — see also DEATH WISH

2 [count] : an act of thinking about something that you want and hoping that you will get it or that it will happen in some magical way • The genie will grant you three *wishes*. • Close your eyes and *make a wish*. [=wish for something] • I *got my wish*. = *My wish came true*. [=I got what I wished for]

3 wishes [plural] : good thoughts or feelings directed toward a person • Send her my good/best *wishes*. • Best *wishes!* *pious wish* see PIOUS

your wish is my command humorous — used to say that you will do what someone else wants you to do • “Could you put these dishes away for me?” “*Your wish is my command.*”

wish-bone /'wɪʃ,bəʊn/ noun, pl -bones [count] : a bone that is at the front of a bird's chest and that is shaped like a V ✧ When a chicken or turkey is eaten, its *wishbone* is traditionally dried and held by two people who each make a wish and pull the bone apart. The person who gets the bigger piece of the bone is supposed to get his or her wish.

wish-ful /'wɪʃfəl/ adj [more ~; most ~] : showing a belief that something will happen or succeed even though it is not likely to happen or succeed • her *wishful* attempts to change her husband's bad habits

wishful thinking noun [noncount] : an attitude or belief that something you want to happen will happen even though it is not likely or possible • The idea that the enemy will immediately surrender is nothing more than *wishful thinking*.

wishing well noun, pl ~ wells [count] : a well that people throw coins into while making a wish

wish list noun, pl ~ lists [count] : a list of things that someone would like to have • That book is on my *wish list*.

wishy-washy /'wɪʃi,wɑːʃi/ adj -wash-i-er; -est [also more ~; most ~] *disapproving* : not having or showing strong ideas or beliefs about something : weak and not able or not

willing to act • He gave me some *wishy-washy* answer. • *wishy-washy* politicians

wisp /'wɪsp/ noun, pl wisps [count]

1 : a thin streak of smoke, mist, etc. • *Wisps* of steam rose up from the teapot. • a *wisp* of smoke

2 : a thin thread or strand of something (such as hair) • A few *wisps* (of hair) framed the sides of her face. • *Wisps* of cotton candy clung to his mouth.

3 : a small amount of something • By the morning, there was just a *wisp* [=bit] of snow left on the ground. • There was a *wisp* of a smile [=a very slight smile] on her lips.

4 : a small and thin person • I met her when she was just a *wisp of a girl*. [=a thin young girl]

— see also WILL-O'-THE-WISP

wispy /'wɪspi/ adj *wisp-i-er; -est*

1 : very thin and light • high *wispy* clouds • She wore a dress made from some *wispy* material.

2 of hair : not thick or full • soft *wispy* bangs • He had the *wispy* beginnings of a beard.

3 of a voice : very soft and quiet • a high, *wispy* voice

wis-te-ria /wɪ'stɪrɪə/ noun, pl -rias [count, noncount] : a plant that grows as a thick vine with large bunches of purple or white flowers

wist-ful /'wɪstfəl/ adj [more ~; most ~] : having or showing sad thoughts and feelings about something that you want to have or do and especially about something that made you happy in the past • She was *wistful* for a moment, then asked, “Do you remember the old playground?” • He had a *wistful* look on his face.

— **wist-ful-ly** adv • He gazed at her *wistfully*. — **wist-fulness** noun [noncount]

wit /'wɪt/ noun, pl wits

1 [noncount] : an ability to say or write things that are clever and usually funny • She is full of *wit* and vivacity. • His latest book doesn't have the same *wit* as his earlier books. • The book is a collection of his *wit and wisdom*.

2 [count] : a person who is known for making clever and funny remarks • She was a famous writer and *wit*. — see also HALF-WIT, NITWIT

3 a wits [plural] : the ability to think or reason • She's got the *wits* [=intelligence] to make it work. • He learned to *live by his wits*. [=to survive by doing clever and sometimes dishonest things] • She can *keep her wits about her* [=remain calm and able to think clearly] in a crisis. • He needed a moment to *gather/collect his wits* [=to become calm and able to think clearly] after the collision. • (*chiefly US*) The chess champion will *match wits* [=compete] with a computer. = (*chiefly Brit*) He will *pit his wits* against a computer. — see also *battle of wits* at ¹BATTLE **b the wit** : the ability to make good decisions • She had *the wit* [=the good sense] to leave before the situation got any worse.

at (your) wit's end (chiefly US) or at (your) wits' end : not able to continue thinking or trying to solve a problem : upset and unable to think of what needs to be done • I've spent six hours trying to fix my computer, but now I'm *at my wit's end*. • She's *at her wit's end* trying to keep her brother out of trouble.

out of your wits informal — used for emphasis with verbs like *scare* and *frighten* • I was *scared out of my wits*! [=I was very scared; I was so scared that I couldn't think clearly]

to wit formal — used before stating the specific thing or example being discussed • This can only mean two things, *to wit*: that he lied, or that he is wrong.

witch /'wɪtʃ/ noun, pl witch-es [count]

1 : a woman who is thought to have magic powers

2 : a person who practices magic as part of a religion (such as Wicca) • an herbalist and self-proclaimed *witch*

3 informal : a very unpleasant woman • Her mother-in-law is a bitter old *witch*.

— **witchy** /'wɪtʃi/ adj *witch-i-er; -est* • She gave a *witchy* cackle. • His mother is a nasty, *witchy* old woman.

witch-craft /'wɪtʃ,kraɪft, Brit 'wɪtʃ,kra:ft/ noun [noncount] : magical things that are done by witches : the use of magical powers obtained especially from evil spirits • The villagers blamed their problems on *witchcraft*. [=sorcery]

witch doctor noun, pl ~ -tors [count] : a person in some cultures who is believed to have magic powers and to be able to cure illness and fight off evil spirits, curses, etc.

witches' brew or witch's brew noun, pl ~ brews [count] : a mixture of dangerous or unpleasant things • a *witches' brew* of hate and lies

witch hazel noun [noncount] : a lotion that is made from

the bark of a plant and that is used to heal the skin

witch hunt *noun, pl ~ hunts* [count] *disapproving*: the act of unfairly looking for and punishing people who are accused of having opinions that are believed to be dangerous or evil • He was the victim of a congressional *witch hunt* against Communists.

witching hour *noun*

the witching hour **1**: the time late at night when the powers of a witch, magician, etc., are believed to be strongest
2: MIDNIGHT • We arrived home shortly before *the witching hour*.

with /'wɪθ, 'wɪð/ *prep*

1 — used to say that people or things are together in one place • Do you have your books *with* you? • I left the money in the car (along) *with* my keys. • The children are home *with* their father. • The doctor will be *with* you shortly. [=the doctor will come to see you soon] • We barely escaped *with our lives*. [=we almost died while trying to escape]

2 — used to say that two or more people or things are doing something together or are involved in something • He went to the store *with* her. • Do you want to come *with* us? • I need to speak *with* you for a moment. • She was talking *with* a friend on the phone. • They usually study *with* me after class. • He works *with* his mother at the restaurant. • We are in competition for customers *with* a lot of other companies.

3: having (a particular characteristic, possession, etc.) • a boy *with* green eyes [=a boy who has green eyes] • She's the one *with* (the) long hair and sunglasses. • He wants to marry someone *with* a lot of money. • You will be competing against people *with* more experience than you. • people *with* pets • She taught a class *with* [=that had] 20 students in it. • They graduated from college *with* honors.

4: using (something specified) • She opened the door *with* her key. • He broke the window *with* a rock. • She walks *with* (the help of) a cane. • The sauce is made *with* milk and cheese. • He welcomed each of his guests *with* a handshake. • He entertained the crowd *with* a few jokes. • She ended her speech *with* a quote from Shakespeare. • *With* one kiss, the princess awoke and the spell was broken. • "*With* this ring, I thee wed."

5 — used to refer to the feeling, thought, quality, etc., that someone has or experiences when doing something • Please accept this gift *with* our thanks. • He spoke about his daughter *with* great pride. [=he spoke about his daughter very proudly] • She supports the idea, *with* reservations. [=she supports the idea but she has some concerns about it] • They accepted the offer *with* certain conditions. • You acted *with* great courage and skill. • They did it *with* no difficulty at all. [=they did it very easily]

6 — used to indicate the cause of something • His face was wet *with* [=because of] tears. • She was red *with* embarrassment. • They all wept *with* sorrow at the news of his death. • He was sick *with* the flu for a week.

7 — used to say that something fills something, covers something, etc. • The garage is filled *with* junk.

8 — used to indicate a related fact or situation • He stood there *with* [=holding] his hat in his hand. • It's hard to concentrate on my homework *with* the television on. [=while the television is on] • Our products have been designed *with* you in mind. [=especially for you] • They made it there *with* no time to spare. • The coach called time out *with* [=when there were] 10 seconds left on the clock. • *With* her on our team, there's no way we can lose. • *With* friends like that [=when you have such bad friends], who needs enemies?

9 — used to indicate the specific thing or person that is being referred to • Please be careful *with* those boxes. [=please handle those boxes carefully] • They are on friendly terms *with* their neighbors. • He's great *with* children. [=children like him and behave well for him] • I'm not very good *with* computers. [=I am not able to use computers well] • She no longer has any influence *with* [=on, over] them.

10 — used to say that someone has a relationship with a person, organization, etc. • He has been *with* the same woman for 35 years. • I plan to be *with* [=I plan to work for] the company until I retire.

11 — used to say that someone or something is the object of attention, behavior, or a feeling • I'm in love *with* you. • She is very angry *with* them. • He seems to be quite happy *with* his new job. • Were you satisfied *with* the way things turned out? • I don't want to get tough *with* you, but you have to learn to obey your mother. • What's going on *with* Jim? = What's happening *with* Jim?

12: in the performance, condition, behavior, or quality of

(something or someone) • What's the problem *with* your car? • The trouble *with* this computer is that it is too slow. • Is there a problem *with* your meal? • The doctors are trying to figure out what is wrong *with* him. • What's the matter *with* you? Are you upset about something? • (informal) What's *with* her? [=why is she acting so strangely?]

13: in opposition to or against (someone) • The boys were fighting/arguing *with* each other. • We had a disagreement *with* our neighbors over the height of the new fence.

14: so as to be separated from (someone or something) • She broke (ties) *with* her friends [=she no longer sees or talks to her friends] because of the incident. • They were my favorite books, and I hated to part *with* them.

15 a — used to say that you agree with or understand someone • "Do you see why I feel this way?" "Oh yes, I'm *with* you completely." • Are you still *with* me? [=are you still listening to me and understanding what I am saying?] **b**: supporting the beliefs or goals of (someone): on the side of (someone) • If he's for helping the poor, I'm *with* him all the way! • You're either *with* [=for] us or against us. • Let's do it. Are you *with* me?

16: in the opinion or judgment of (someone) • It's fine *with* [=by] us if you want to come, too. • That's okay *with* me.

17: according to the experience or behavior of (someone) • It became a habit *with* them [=it became their habit] to read before going to bed. • As *with* many of her generation, she had lost interest in politics. • Promises are sacred *with* [=for] him. • *With* him, a promise is a promise.

18: as successfully as (someone) • He can ski *with* the best of them. [=he can ski as well as the best skiers]

19 — used to say that things happen at the same time • The birds returned *with* the arrival of spring. • The book fell to the floor *with* a loud bang. • All of their games begin *with* the singing of the national anthem.

20: in a way that changes according to (something) • The pressure varies *with* the depth. • Her health should improve *with* time. • The excitement grows *with* each passing day. [=there is more excitement each day]

21: in the same direction as (something) • Sand the wood *with* the grain, not against it. • We were sailing *with* the wind.

22 — used to say that someone or something is included in a total number or amount • *With* [=including] my husband and me, there were 12 people at the party. • It costs \$10.35 *with* tax.

23: in spite of (something) • It's hard to believe that, *with* all her talent and hard work, she still didn't win the competition. • They love the team, *with* all its faults.

24 — used to indicate the object of an adverb in a type of command • Off *with* his head! [=cut off his head] • Away *with* her. [=take her away from here] • Down *with* injustice!

what with see ³WHAT

with it *informal* **1**: in a state in which you are thinking clearly and aware of what is happening • I had just woken up and wasn't quite *with it* yet. • Come on, now. **Get with it.**

2: knowing a lot about current styles, ideas, or events • You have to be pretty *with it* if you want to talk to them about politics.

with that: immediately after doing or saying that • She said goodbye and closed the door behind her. And *with that*, she was gone.

with-draw /wɪð'drɑː, wɪθ'drɑː/ *verb* **-draws; -drew** /-'druː/; **-drawn** /-'draːn/; **-draw-ing**

1 [+ *obj*]: to remove (money) from a bank account • She *withdrew* \$200 from her checking account.

2 [+ *obj*]: to take (something) back so that it is no longer available • The pills were *withdrawn* [=recalled] from the market because they were unsafe.

3 [+ *obj*] *formal*: to take back (something that is spoken, offered, etc.) • The company *withdrew* [=retracted] the job offer. • The prosecutor *withdrew* her question to the witness. • They have *withdrawn* the charges. • *withdraw* support for a candidate

4 [*no obj*]: to stop participating in something • Students can *withdraw* from a class anytime until the last week of the semester. • The injury forced him to *withdraw* from [=drop out of] the tournament.

5 a *of soldiers*: to leave an area [*no obj*] The troops were forced to *withdraw*. • They *withdrew* from the battlefield. [+ *obj*] The troops were *withdrawn* [=pulled back] from the front line. **b** [*no obj*] *somewhat formal + old-fashioned*: to leave a room, area, etc., and go to another place — + *to* • He retired and *withdrew* [=moved] *to* the country. • After dinner, we *withdrew to* the library.

6 [*no obj*] : to stop spending time with other people : to spend more time alone and gradually stop talking to other people — often + *from* or *into* • She *withdrew from* other people as she grew older. • He *withdrew into* himself after his brother's death. — see also **WITHDRAWN**

7 [+ *obj*] : to take (something) back, away, or out • He *withdrew* [=removed] his hand from the doorknob.

with-draw-al /wɪð'dra:əl, wɪθ'dra:əl/ *noun, pl -als*

1 [*count*] **a** : an act of moving something away or taking something away • The general authorized the *withdrawal* of troops from the fields. • a *withdrawal* of support **b** : an act of ending your involvement in something • He announced his *withdrawal* from the campaign. [=announced that he would no longer be involved in the campaign]

2 : the act of taking money out of a bank account [*count*] a *withdrawal* of \$3,000 • She *made a withdrawal* from her checking/savings account. [*noncount*] The bank charges you for the premature *withdrawal* of funds. [=for taking out money before you are supposed to] — opposite **DEPOSIT**

3 [*noncount*] **a** : the act or process of stopping the use of an addictive drug • He underwent rehab to help him through his *withdrawal* from heroin. **b** : the physical and mental problems that occur for a period of time after a person stops using an addictive drug • She experienced symptoms of nicotine *withdrawal* after she quit smoking.

with-drawn /wɪð'dra:n, wɪθ'dra:n/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : very quiet and usually shy : not talking much to other people • He became more *withdrawn* after his brother's death. • She was *withdrawn* as a child but is now more outgoing.

with-er /'wɪðə/ *verb -ers; -ered; -er-ing* [*no obj*] of a plant : to become dry and weak • The plants *withered* and died. — often used figuratively • The economy has *withered*. [=has become weaker] — often + *away* • Our hopes have *withered away*. [=died away]

withered *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 of a plant : dry and weak • *withered* leaves

2 : thin and wrinkled because of illness, old age, etc. • an old man with a *withered* face

with-er-ing /'wɪðərɪŋ/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : very harsh, severe, or damaging • The book has been the subject of *withering* criticism. • She gave me a *withering* look.

with-ers /'wɪðəz/ *noun* [*plural*] : the ridge between the shoulder bones of a horse • The horse stands six feet high at the *withers*. — see picture at **HORSE**

with-hold /wɪθ'hould, wɪð'hould/ *verb -holds; -held* /-hɛld/; **-hold-ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to hold (something) back • You can *withhold* the fee until the work is complete. [=you can wait to pay the fee until after the work is complete] • His letter was published in the newspaper but he asked that his name be *withheld*. [=that his name not be printed]

2 : to refuse to provide (something) • She was accused of *withholding* evidence.

3 **US** : to take out (an amount of money for taxes) from someone's income • She has \$20 *withheld* from her paycheck every week.

withholding tax *noun, pl ~ taxes* [*count*] **US** : money that is taken from a person's pay and given directly to the government as income tax — called also (*Brit*) **PAYE**

1 **with-in** /wɪ'ðɪn, wɪθɪn/ *prep*

1 a : inside (a certain area or space) • They live *within* the city limits. • *within* the country's borders • The company's most important decisions are made *within* these four walls. [=inside this room] • We could hear sounds coming from *within* his apartment. **b** : inside (a group, company, society, etc.) • Reports from *within* the company indicate a change in policy. • Divisions *within* the party [=disagreements between members of the party] are growing.

2 : before the end of (a particular period of time) • Most students find a job *within* a year of graduating. • Scientists predict that a cure will be found *within* (the next) five years. • She made several friends *within* days of moving into her new apartment. • He entered the house, and *within* seconds, he was surrounded by children. • We should know the results of your test *within the space of* an hour. [=in an hour or less]

3 : less than (a particular distance) from something or someone • Everything I need is *within* a few miles of my apartment. • The school is *within* walking distance (of our house). • Everything is *within easy reach* [=nearby] • I keep my dictionary *within reach* [=close enough to reach] on my desk. • The hotel is *within sight* of the ocean. [=you can see the ocean from the hotel]

4 : not beyond the limits of (something) • They encourage living *within* your means/income and not using credit cards excessively. • Let's try to stay *within* our/the budget. • It is *within* the jurisdiction of the state to make such laws. • Their actions fell *within* the guidelines [=they were acceptable according to the rules] set by the committee. • It is *within* the realm of possibility [=it is possible], but it is not likely.

5 — used to say how close someone is or was to doing or achieving something • She is currently *within* two hundred votes of being elected. • Twice this season, they have come *within* five points of winning. [=they have lost by five or fewer points]

6 : in the thoughts or character of (someone) • She searched *within* herself for the truth. • The problem lies not with other people but *within* yourself. [=you are the problem]

2 **within** *adv, formal*

1 : inside something • We could hear sounds coming from *within*. • The sign on the door says "Help Wanted: Inquire *Within*."

2 : in someone's inner thoughts, feelings, etc. • We all try to appear strong and attempt to hide the scared little child *within*. • They were outwardly calm but nervous *within*. • The truth lies *within*.

1 **with-out** /wɪ'ðaut, wɪθaut/ *prep*

1 : not having or including (something) • Do you take your coffee with or *without* sugar? • Don't leave home *without* your wallet. • *Without* water, there would be no life on Earth. • a world *without* war • They were *without* electricity [=they did not have electricity] for a week after the storm. • She's the one *without* the hat. [=the one who is not wearing a hat] • I can't imagine life *without* a car. • They fought *without* fear. [=they were not afraid when they fought] • They managed to finish it *without* (experiencing) any difficulty. • She survived the accident *without* serious injury. [=she was not seriously injured] • It happened suddenly and *without* warning. • He disappeared *without* a trace. [=there was no trace of him after he disappeared] • We kept trying *without* success. [=we kept trying but we did not succeed] • The prisoner will be held *without* bail until his trial. • Applicants are considered *without regard* for age, race, religion, or sex. [=an applicant's age, race, religion, or sex are not important]

2 — used to say that someone is not with or is not involved with another person or group • He went to the store *without* her. • Please don't make a decision *without* me. • I couldn't have done it *without* you. = I couldn't have done it *without* your help. • We would have lost that game *without* her.

3 : not using (something specified) • These cookies are made *without* flour. • Try doing the math *without* a calculator. • I can't see you *without* my glasses.

4 : not doing something specified • They left *without* (even) saying goodbye. [=when they left they did not say goodbye] • *Without* realizing it, he told them his secret. • *Without* wishing to [=although I do not wish to] speak ill of the dead, he wasn't a very nice person. • Even *without* studying, she answered all of the questions correctly. • I can concentrate better *without* (having) the television on.

2 **without** *adv* : not having something • Do you take your coffee with sugar or *without*?

do *without* see **1** **DO**

go *without* see **1** **GO**

with-stand /wɪθ'stænd, wɪð'stænd/ *verb -stands; -stood* /-stʊd/; **-stand-ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to not be harmed or affected by (something) • cookware that can *withstand* high temperatures • I couldn't *withstand* the rigors of army life.

2 : to deal with (something, such as an attack or criticism) successfully • They *withstood* attacks from many critics.

wit-less /'wɪtləs/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 : very foolish or stupid • He committed a *witless* blunder. • a *witless* fool

2 *not used before a noun, informal* : very much ; very badly — used for emphasis • We were bored *witless*. [=we were extremely bored] • The ghost story had me scared *witless*. [=I was very scared]

— **wit-less-ly** *adv* — **wit-less-ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

1 **wit-ness** /'wɪtnəs/ *noun, pl -ness-es*

1 [*count*] **a** : a person who sees something (such as a crime) happen • a murder *witness* — often + *to* • He was a *witness to* a robbery. — see also **EYEWITNESS** **b** *law* : a person who makes a statement in a court about what he or she knows or has seen • The defense/prosecution called its first *witness* to the stand. • a *witness* for the defense/prosecution • a *charac-*

ter witness [=a person who can say whether someone is honest, has a good character, etc.]

2 [count] : a person who is present at an event (such as a wedding) and can say that it happened • His aunt and uncle were *witnesses* at his baptism. • There must be two *witnesses* present when she signs the document.

3 [noncount] US : a statement of a person's religious beliefs • They *gave witness to* their faith. [=declared their belief in a god or religion]

bear witness **1** : to show that something exists or is true — + *to* • His success *bears witness to* the value of hard work. • Rising ticket sales *bear witness to* the band's popularity. [=show that the band is popular] **2 formal** : to make a statement saying that you saw or know something • She was accused of *bearing false witness*. [=saying that she saw something that she did not really see]

be witness to : to see (something) happen • We have *been witness to* many changes in recent years. [=we have seen many changes in recent years]

2 witness verb -nesses; -nessed; -ness-ing

1 [+ obj] : to see (something) happen • Several people *witnessed* the accident. • We are *witnessing* a historic moment.

2 [+ obj] law : to be present at (an event) in order to be able to say that it happened : to act as a legal witness of (something) • He *witnessed* the signing of her will.

3 [+ obj] : to be the time or place when (something) happens • The past decade has *witnessed* many new advances in medical research. [=many new advances have occurred in the past decade] • The industry is *witnessing* a gradual decline in sales. [=sales are declining in the industry]

4 [+ obj] — used to say that something is an example of or is proof of something • The economy is improving—*witness* the decrease in unemployment. [=the decrease in unemployment shows that the economy is improving]

5 [no obj] US : to make a public statement about your religious beliefs • a chance to *witness* for the Lord • speakers *witnessing to* their faith [=stating what they believe]

as witnessed by : as shown by • The event was a success, *as witnessed by* the high turnout. [=the high turnout shows that the event was a success]

witness stand noun, pl ~ stands [count] US : the place in a court of law where a witness answers questions and promises to tell the truth : the place where a witness testifies in court — called also *the stand*, (Brit) *witness box*

wit-ter /'wɪtə/ verb -ters; -tered; -ter-ing [no obj] Brit, informal : to talk for a long time about something that is not important or interesting — often + *on* • She *wittered on* [=prattled on] about her health problems.

wit-ti-cism /'wɪtɪsɪzəm/ noun, pl -cisms [count] : a clever or funny remark • a collection of famous *witticisms*

wit-ting-ly /'wɪtɪŋli/ adv : with knowledge or awareness of what you are doing • I wasn't *wittingly* [=consciously] trying to hurt your feelings. • Some parents, *wittingly or not* [=whether they mean to or not], don't spend enough time with their children. • *Wittingly or unwittingly* [=knowingly or unknowingly], she hurt my feelings again.

wit-ty /'wɪti/ adj wit-ti-er; -est : funny and clever • a *witty* talk show host • a *witty* remark

— **wit-ti-ly** /'wɪtɪli/ adv • Her novel *wittily* portrays life in a small town. — **wit-ti-ness** /'wɪtɪnəs/ noun [noncount]

wives plural of WIFE

wiz /'wɪz/ noun, pl wiz-zes [count] US, informal : WIZARD • She's a spelling *wiz*. [=she's very good at spelling]

wiz-ard /'wɪzəd/ noun, pl -ards [count]

1 : a person who is skilled in magic or who has magical powers : a sorcerer or magician

2 : a person who is very good at something • He is a *wizard* at math. • a math *wizard*

wiz-ard-ry /'wɪzədri/ noun [noncount]

1 : the magical things done by a wizard : SORCERY • *The Lord of the Rings* is a story of monsters, heroes, and *wizardry*.

2 : something that is very impressive in a way that seems magical • the *wizardry* of modern technology • She demonstrated her *wizardry* [=great skill] on the tennis court.

wiz-ened /'wɪzənd/ adj [more ~; most ~] : dry and wrinkled usually because of old age • the old man's *wizened* face

wk abbr week

wkly abbr weekly

WMD abbr weapons of mass destruction

w/o abbr without

wob-ble /'wɒbəl/ verb wob-bles; wob-bled; wob-bling [no obj]

1 : to move with an unsteady side-to-side motion • The vase *wobbled* but didn't fall over. • The boy was *wobbling* along on his bicycle. • The table *wobbles* a little.

2 : to be or become unsteady or unsure • They have been *wobbling* in their support of the president's policies.

— **wobble** noun [singular] • The table has a slight *wobble*.

1 wob-bly /'wɒbəl/ adj wob-bli-er; -est [more ~; most ~]

1 : moving from side to side in an unsteady way • The railing is *wobbly*. • *wobbly* [=shaky] legs

2 : not strong or steady • He replied in a *wobbly* [=shaky] voice. • a *wobbly* [=unstable] housing market

2 wobbly noun

throw a wobbly Brit, informal : to become very angry or upset • He *threw a wobbly* [=threw a fit] when he found out his flight was delayed.

wodge /'wɒdʒ/ noun, pl wodge-es [count] Brit, informal : a large piece of something : a large amount of something — + *of* • a *wodge of* cheese • a *wodge of* cash

woe /'wɔ:/ noun, pl woes

1 [noncount] : a feeling of great pain or sadness • She listened to his *tale of woe*. [=his sad story]

2 woes [plural] : problems or troubles • She may have found a remedy to her financial *woes*. [=her problems with money] • The city's traffic *woes* are well-known.

woe is me — used in a humorous way to say that you are sad or upset about something • Oh, *woe is me!*

woe to or woe betide old-fashioned — used as a warning that there will be trouble if someone does something specified • *Woe betide* anyone who enters here! [=anyone who enters here will be harmed] • *Woe to* any student who is late for her class. [=any student who is late for her class will be in trouble]

woe-be-gone /'wɔ:bi,gə:n/ adj [more ~; most ~] : looking or feeling very sad • His face had a *woebegone* expression. • a *woebegone* town

woe-ful /'wɔ:fəl/ adj [more ~; most ~]

1 : full of woe : very sad • a *woeful* story • The puppy had *woeful* eyes.

2 : very bad • The student's grades were *woeful*. • He was a *woeful* [=pitiful] excuse for a father.

— **woe-ful-ly** adv • The teachers are *woefully* underpaid.

wok /'wɒk/ noun, pl woks [count] : a pan that is shaped like a bowl and that is used especially for cooking Chinese food

woke past tense and past participle of ¹WAKE

woken past participle of ¹WAKE

wold /'wɔ:ld/ noun, pl wolds [count] Brit : an area of hilly land in the country — usually used in names • Yorkshire *Wolds*

1 wolf /'wɒlf/ noun, pl wolves

/'wʊlvz/ [count] : a large wild animal that is similar to a dog and that often hunts in groups • a *pack of wolves* — compare COYOTE, JACKAL; see also LONE WOLF, WEREWOLF

a wolf in sheep's clothing

: a person who appears to be friendly or helpful but who really is dangerous or dishonest • He turned out to be *a wolf in sheep's clothing*.

cry wolf see ¹CRY

keep the wolf from the door informal : to have or earn enough money to af-

ford things (such as food and clothing) that you need to live • They make just enough to *keep the wolf from the door*.

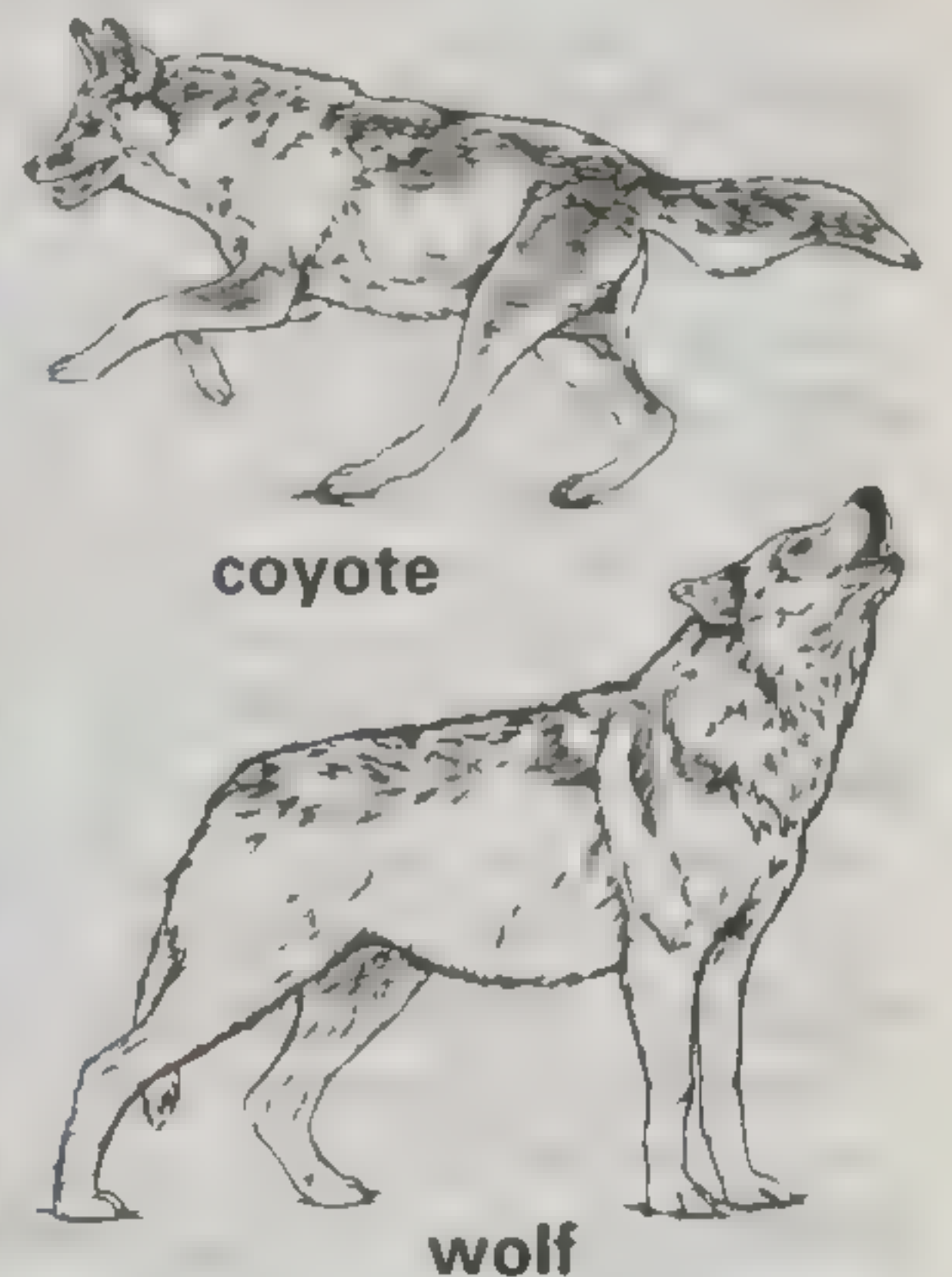
throw someone to the wolves : to put someone in a position that allows them to be criticized or treated badly without any defense or protection • He *threw his partner to the wolves* by exposing his involvement in the scandal.

— **wolf-ish** /'wʊlfɪʃ/ adj [more ~; most ~] • The boy wore a *wolfish* grin.

2 wolf verb wolfs; wolfed; wolf-ing [+ obj] : to eat (something) very quickly • The kids were *wolfing* [=devouring] their food. — usually + *down* • She *wolfed down* her breakfast.

wolf-hound /'wʊlf,haʊnd/ noun, pl -hounds [count] : a type of large dog that was used for hunting wolves and other large animals in the past

wolf whistle noun, pl ~ whistles [count] : a loud whistle



coyote

wolf

made by men to indicate that a woman is attractive ✧ Some people consider wolf whistles to be offensive.

wol-ver-ine /ˌwʊlvəˈriːn/ *noun*, *pl* **-ines** [*count*] *US* : a strong animal with brown fur that lives in North America

wom-an /ˈwʊmən/ *noun*, *pl* **wom-en** /ˈwɪmən/

1 [*count*] : an adult female human being • She was a shy and awkward girl who grew up to become a confident and beautiful *woman*. • She is a grown *woman*. • The store sells shoes for both men and *women*. • *women's* basketball — often used before another noun • a survey of *women* doctors • They hired a *woman* lawyer. • the town's first *woman* mayor

2 [*count*] : a woman who has a specified job or position • Do they have a cleaning *woman*? — usually used in combination • She was named the committee chair*woman*. • We asked the sales*woman* for assistance.

3 [*noncount*] : all women thought of as a group • a celebration of *woman* [=women]

4 [*count*] *old-fashioned* : a female servant (such as a maid) • My *woman* will bring your dinner.

5 [*count*] *informal* : the girlfriend, wife, or lover of a man • Is there a new *woman* in your life? — see also LITTLE WOMAN, OTHER WOMAN

6 [*count*] : a woman who comes from or lives in a specified town, city, etc. — used chiefly by journalists • One of the accident victims has been identified as a Boston *woman*.

7 [*count*] : a woman who likes something very much or who is known for some activity or interest • I'm strictly a chocolate ice cream *woman*. [=I'm a woman who likes chocolate ice cream]

8 [*count*] *informal* + *old-fashioned* — used when you are talking to a woman in an angry way • Don't bother me, *woman*!

woman of action see ACTION

woman of the hour see HOUR

wom-an-hood /ˈwʊmənˌhʊd/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the state or condition of being an adult woman and no longer a girl • a young girl on the verge of *womanhood* • What is your view of *womanhood*?

2 : women in general • The book is a celebration of *womanhood*.

wom-an-ish /ˈwʊmənɪʃ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : suitable for or typical of a woman rather than a man : not masculine • He has a *womanish* [=feminine] voice. — compare WOMANLY

wom-an-iz-er also *Brit* **wom-an-is-er** /ˈwʊmənˌaɪzər/ *noun*, *pl* **-ers** [*count*] *disapproving* : a man who has sexual relationships with many women • He has the reputation of being a *womanizer*. • Her former husband was a *womanizer*.

— **wom-an-ize** also *Brit* **wom-an-ise** /ˈwʊmənˌaɪz/ *verb* **-izes**; **-ized**; **-izing** [*no obj*] • He has been accused of *womanizing*.

wom-an-kind /ˈwʊmənˌkaɪnd/ *noun* [*noncount*] : all women thought of as one group : WOMEN • for the benefit of all *womankind* • She vowed to wage a battle on behalf of *womankind*. — compare MANKIND

wom-an-ly /ˈwʊmənli/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having or showing qualities (such as beauty or gentleness) that are expected in a woman : FEMININE • She gave off a *womanly* radiance. • her *womanly* curves/figure

— **wom-an-li-ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

woman of letters *noun*, *pl* **women of letters** [*count*] : a woman who writes or who knows a lot about novels, poems, etc. : a literary woman

woman of the world *noun*, *pl* **women of the world** [*count*] : a woman who has had many experiences and who is not shocked by things that may be shocking to other people

womb /ˈwʊm/ *noun*, *pl* **wombs** [*count*] : UTERUS

wom-bat /ˈwɑːmˌbæt/ *noun*, *pl* **-bats** [*count*] : an Australian animal that looks like a small bear ✧ The female wombat has a pouch in which the young are carried.

wom-en-folk /ˈwɪmənˌfəʊk/ *noun* [*plural*] *old-fashioned* + *humorous* : the women of a family or community • cowboys fighting to protect their *womenfolk*

women's rights *noun* [*plural*] : legal, political, and social rights for women that are equal to those of men • She is an advocate of *women's rights*. • the *women's rights* movement

women's room *noun*, *pl* ~ **rooms** [*count*] *US* : LADIES' ROOM

women's studies *noun* [*plural*] : the study of subjects relating to women, their roles in history, and their contributions to society • a college with a *women's studies* program • a major in *women's studies*

won *past tense and past participle of* ¹WIN

¹**won-der** /ˈwʌndər/ *noun*, *pl* **-ders**

1 [*count*] : something or someone that is very surprising, beautiful, amazing, etc. • The Grand Canyon is one of the natural *wonders* of the world. • This new computer is a technological *wonder*. • She's a *wonder* with a paintbrush. [=she is very good at painting] • the *wonders* of science — see also NINE DAYS' WONDER, ONE-HIT WONDER

2 [*noncount*] : a feeling caused by seeing something that is very surprising, beautiful, amazing, etc. • The child's eyes were filled with *wonder* during the trip to the circus. • We watched the fireworks show with *wonder* and amazement. • She gazed up at the tall buildings in *wonder*.

3 [*singular*] : something that is surprising or hard to believe • It's a *wonder* we made it this far. [=it is surprising we made it this far] • Is it any *wonder* why this movie is so popular?

do/work wonders : to help or improve something greatly • A vacation will *do wonders* for your mood. • The treatment *worked wonders* on my skin.

no wonder or small/little wonder — used to say that something is not surprising • It's *no wonder* you're hungry; you didn't have any breakfast. • *Small wonder* that we're lost, since we didn't ask for directions. • They failed to realize how costly the work would be. *Little wonder*, then, that their plan was rejected.

wonders never cease humorous — used to say that you are happy and surprised by something good that has happened • He was on time for work all week. *Wonders never cease!* • My story is finally getting published! *Will wonders never cease?* [=isn't that amazing/surprising?]

²**wonder** *verb* **-ders**; **-dered**; **-der-ing**

1 : to have interest in knowing or learning something : to think about something with curiosity [+ *obj*] Have you ever *wondered* why the sky is blue? • I *wonder* [=I would like to know] if he's going to change jobs. • I *wonder* where I put my keys. [=I'm not sure where I put my keys; I'm trying to remember where I put my keys] • Who could that be at the door, I *wonder*? • She *wondered* aloud what to do with the money. • I *wonder* [=I am curious about] how they could afford that house. [*no obj*] I was *wondering* about that.

2 [+ *obj*] — used to ask a question or make a polite request • I *wonder* if you could tell me where the post office is? • We were *wondering* if you'd like to join us for dinner.

3 [*no obj*] : to feel surprise or amazement • Sometimes his behavior makes me *wonder*. • (*chiefly Brit*) The next class will be harder, I *shouldn't wonder*. [=I won't be surprised if the next class is harder] — often + *at* • We stood and *wondered at* the impressive display of lights.

wonder drug *noun*, *pl* ~ **drugs** [*count*] : a very effective drug • Scientists are developing a new *wonder drug* [=miracle drug] for treating arthritis.

won-der-ful /ˈwʌndəfəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : extremely good • The rooms were filled with *wonderful* works of art. • It was a *wonderful* party. • You did a *wonderful* job. • We had a *wonderful* [=great, terrific, fantastic] meal. • She came home with *wonderful* news. • It's *wonderful* to finally meet you.

— **won-der-ful-ly** *adv* • The story was *wonderfully* written.

won-der-land /ˈwʌndəˌlənd/ *noun*, *pl* **-lands** [*count*] : a place that is filled with things that are beautiful, impressive, or surprising • The garden was a floral *wonderland*.

won-der-ment /ˈwʌndəˌmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a feeling of being surprised or amazed • He felt a sense of *wonderment*. • They shook their heads in *wonderment*. [=awe]

won-drous /ˈwʌndrəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : causing wonder or amazement : very beautiful or impressive • The museum featured a display of *wondrous* tapestries. • The artist can achieve *wondrous* [=wonderful] things with a paintbrush.

— **won-drous-ly** *adv* • a *wondrously* lush forest

wonk /ˈwɔːŋk/ *noun*, *pl* **wonks** [*count*] *US*, *informal* + *sometimes disapproving* : a person who knows a lot about the details of a particular field (such as politics) and often talks a lot about that subject • the *policy wonks* in the government

¹**won-ky** /ˈwɔːŋki/ *adj* **won-ki-er**; **-est** *US*, *informal* + *sometimes disapproving*

1 : having or showing a lot of interest in and knowledge about the details of a particular subject : having the qualities of a wonk • a *wonky* bureaucrat in the State Department

2 : very boring or complicated • She enjoys reading about tax law and other *wonky* stuff.

— compare ²WONKY

²**wonky** /ˈwɔːŋki/ *adj* **wonk-i-er**; **-est** *informal*

1 *Brit* : not straight or steady • I was sitting on a *wonky* [=shaky, wobbly] chair. • a *wonky* [=loose] tooth

2 : not working correctly : not reliable or stable • He has a *wonky* knee.

— compare ¹WONKY

¹**wont** /'wɑːnt, Brit 'wəʊnt/ *adj*, *not used before a noun, formal* : likely to do something : having a tendency to do something • Some people are *wont to blame* others [=some people have the habit of blaming others] for their faults. • He played with his collar, as he is *wont to do* [=as he often does] when he is nervous.

²**wont** *noun* [noncount] *old-fashioned* : a usual habit or way of behaving • He enjoyed a drink after work, *as is his wont*. [=as he usually or often does]

won't /'wəʊnt/ : will not • I *won't* see him today.

won-ton /'wɑːn,tɑːn/ *noun* [noncount] : a Chinese food made of dough that is filled with meat or vegetables and often served boiled in soup

woo /'wuː/ *verb* **woos**; **wooed**; **woo-ing** [+ *obj*]

1 *old-fashioned* : to try to make (someone) love you : to try to have a romantic relationship with (someone) • He *wooed* [=courted] her with flowers and dinner. • She was *wooed* [=romanced] by many boys when she was in school.

2 : to try to attract (someone, such as a customer, voter, worker, etc.) : to attempt to persuade (someone) to buy something from you, vote for you, work for you, etc. • The store had a sale in an effort to *woo* new customers. • The company must find creative ways to *woo* new employees.

¹**wood** /'wud/ *noun, pl woods*

1 [noncount] : the hard substance that makes up the stems and branches of trees and shrubs • a block of *wood* • Some baseball bats are made out of *wood*. • The *wood* on the deck has begun to rot. — see also DEADWOOD, DRIFTWOOD, HARDWOOD, PLYWOOD

2 *a or woods* [count] : an area of land covered with many trees • Their house is near a small *wood*. • A thick *woods* runs along the boundary of the estate. **b woods** : a thick growth of trees and bushes that covers a wide area : FOREST [noncount] The house is surrounded by *woods*. • He went for a hike in the *woods*. [plural] The *woods* are a dangerous place for walking. [=the forest is a dangerous place for walking]

3 [count] : a golf club with a large head that was made of wood in the past but is now usually made of metal • She hit a *wood* off the tee. • a fairway *wood* [=a type of wood that is used to hit shots from the fairway] — compare ¹IRON **3**

babe in the woods see BABE

knock on wood (US) or chiefly Brit *touch wood* ✧ People say *knock on wood* or *touch wood* and often hit or touch something made of wood as a way to prevent bad luck after they have just said that something good has happened, that they are in a good situation, etc. • I've never broken a bone, *knock on wood*.

neck of the woods see ¹NECK

not see the wood for the trees see TREE

out of the wood/woods : in a position free from danger or difficulty • Her health is getting better but she's not *out of the woods* yet. [=she is still sick; there is still a chance that her condition could get much worse]

²**wood** *adj*

1 : made of wood : WOODEN • The walls had *wood* paneling. • a *wood* floor

2 : used for cutting or working with wood • a *wood* saw

wood-block /'wud,blɑːk/ *noun, pl -blocks* [count] : a piece of wood that has a design cut into it and that is used for printing : WOODCUT • She made a *woodblock* print.

wood carving *noun* [noncount] : the art of cutting designs into wood or carving objects out of wood

— **wood-carv-er** /'wud,kɑːvə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count]

wood-chuck /'wud,tʃʌk/ *noun, pl -chucks* [count] : a small, furry North American animal that lives in the ground — called also *groundhog*; see picture at RODENT

wood-cock /'wud,kɑːk/ *noun, pl wood-cocks or wood-cock* [count] : a brown bird that has a short neck and long bill and that is often hunted

wood-cut /'wud,kʌt/ *noun, pl -cuts* [count]

1 : WOODBLOCK

2 : a picture made from a woodcut • a collection of fine *woodcuts*

wood-cut-ter /'wud,kʌtə/ *noun, pl -ters* [count] *old-fashioned* : a person whose job is to chop down trees and cut wood

wood-ed /'wudəd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : covered with trees • a *wooded* lot • These sorts of birds live in more *wooded* areas.

wood-en /'wudn/ *adj*

1 : made of wood • a *wooden* crate • a *wooden* fence

2 [more ~; most ~] : awkward or stiff : not having or showing any emotion, energy, etc. • The guest speaker was *wood-en* and uninspiring. • a movie with *wooden* dialogue

— **wood-en-ly** *adv* • a *woodenly* acted movie — **wood-en-ness** /'wudnəs/ *noun* [noncount]

wood-land /'wudlənd/ *noun, pl -lands* : land covered with trees and bushes : FOREST [noncount] The swamp was surrounded by dense *woodland*. — often used before another noun • snakes, squirrels, and other *woodland* creatures • a *woodland* habitat [count] a dense *woodland* — often plural • The *woodlands* stretch for miles.

wood-lot /'wud,lɑːt/ *noun, pl -lots* [count] : a small area of trees that can be used as fuel or to provide wood for building things

wood louse *noun, pl ~ lice* [count] : a small, gray insect that lives under stones and in other dark, wet places

wood-peck-er /'wud,pɛkə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count] : a bird that has a very hard beak which it uses to make holes in trees to get insects for food — see color picture on page C9

wood-pile /'wud,pajəl/ *noun, pl -piles* [count] : a pile of pieces of wood that will be used to make fires

wood-shed /'wud,ʃed/ *noun, pl -sheds* [count] : a small building used for storing firewood

woods-man /'wudzmən/ *noun, pl -men* /-mən/ [count] : a man who works in and knows many things about the forest • an expert *woodsman*

woody /'wudzi/ *adj* **woods-i-er**; **-est** [also more ~; most ~] US, informal

1 : having many trees : covered with trees • a *woody* area

2 : relating to or suggesting the forest • a *woody* smell

wood-wind /'wud,wɪnd/ *noun, pl -winds*

1 [count] : any one of the group of musical instruments that includes flutes, clarinets, oboes, bassoons, and saxophones • He plays all the *woodwind* instruments very well. • the *woodwind section* [=the group of musicians in an orchestra who play woodwinds] — see picture on next page; compare WIND INSTRUMENT

2 *woodwinds* [plural] : the section of a band or orchestra that plays woodwind instruments

wood-work /'wud,wɜːk/ *noun* [noncount]

1 : the parts of a room or house (such as window frames or stairs) that are made of wood • decorative *woodwork* • We painted the walls white and the *woodwork* red.

2 Brit : WOODWORKING

3 Brit, informal : the wooden frame of football or soccer goalposts • The kick hit the *woodwork*.

come/crawl out of the woodwork *disapproving* ✧ If people *come/crawl out of the woodwork*, they appear suddenly, usually because they see an opportunity to get something for themselves. • As soon as she won the lottery, people started *coming out of the woodwork*, asking for money.

into the woodwork — used in phrases like *fade into the woodwork* to describe someone or something that is not noticed or that seems to disappear • He's so shy that he always seems to *fade into the woodwork* at parties.

wood-work-ing /'wud,wɜːkɪŋ/ *noun* [noncount] US : the skill or work of making things out of wood • His favorite hobby was *woodworking*. • *woodworking* projects/tools

— **wood-work-er** /'wud,wɜːkə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count]

woody /'wudi/ *adj* **wood-i-er**; **-est** [also more ~; most ~]

1 : having stems and branches that are made of wood • *woody* plants : made of wood • tall *woody* stems

2 : similar to wood • a *woody* flavor/texture

3 informal : having many trees • a *woody* piece of land

¹**woof** /'wuf/ *noun, pl woofs* [count] : the sound made by a dog : BARK — compare ²WOOF

— **woof** *verb* **woofs**; **woofed**; **woof-ing** [no *obj*] • The dog *woofed*.

²**woof** *noun, pl woofs* [count] *technical* : WEFT — compare ¹WOOF

woof-er /'wufə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count] : a loudspeaker (such as one connected to a stereo) that produces sounds of low pitch — compare SUBWOOFER, TWEETER

wool /'wul/ *noun* [noncount]

1 : the soft, thick hair of sheep and some other animals — see also LAMBSWOOL

2 : cloth or clothing made of wool • She doesn't like *wool* because it can be itchy. • virgin *wool* [=wool that is being used in fabric for the first time] — often used before another noun • *wool* socks • a *wool* blanket/sweater

woodwinds



bassoon

saxophone

flute

clarinet

3 chiefly Brit : long, thick thread made of wool and used for knitting • a ball of wool [(US) yarn]

pull the wool over someone's eyes informal : to trick or deceive someone : to hide the truth from someone • He was too clever to let them pull the wool over his eyes.

— see also COTTON WOOL, DYED-IN-THE-WOOL, STEEL WOOL, WIRE WOOL

wool·en (US) or Brit **wool·len** /'wʊlən/ adj, always used before a noun

1 : made of wool • woolen blankets

2 : relating to the business of making cloth from wool • the woolen industry

wool·ens (US) or Brit **wool·lens** /'wʊlənz/ noun [plural] somewhat old-fashioned : clothes made of wool • He wore his best woolens.

¹wool·ly also **wooly** /'wʊli/ adj **wool·li·er**; **-est** [also more ~; most ~]

1 : covered with wool • a woolly animal

2 chiefly Brit, informal : made of wool or resembling wool : WOOLEN • a woolly hat/jumper

3 chiefly Brit : confused and unclear • woolly thinking • a woolly argument

wild and woolly chiefly US, informal : very wild : without order or control • His novels were about the wild and woolly Western frontier. • a wild and woolly love affair

— **wool·li·ness** noun [noncount]

²wool·ly /'wʊli/ noun, pl **wool·lies** [count] chiefly Brit, informal : a warm piece of clothing (such as a sweater) made of knitted wool • Get out your winter woollies.

woolly mammoth noun, pl ~ **-moths** [count] : ¹MAMMOTH **1**

woops variant spelling of WHOOPS

woo·zy /'wʊ:zi/ adj **woo·zi·er**; **-est** [also more ~; most ~] : slightly dizzy, sick, or weak • She was already feeling woozy after her first drink. • woozy from fatigue

— **woo·zi·ness** noun [noncount]

wop /'wɑ:p/ noun, pl **wops** [count] informal + offensive : an Italian person ♦ The word wop is very offensive and should be avoided.

¹word /'wɜ:d/ noun, pl **words**

1 [count] : a sound or combination of sounds that has a meaning and is spoken or written • How do you spell that word? • "Please" is a useful word. • Our teacher often used words I didn't know. • What is the French word for car? • She was a genius in every sense of the word. [=she was truly a genius] • You don't need to use big words [=difficult words used to try to impress people] to make your point. • Words fail me. [=I don't know what to say] — see also BUZZWORD, FOUR-LETTER WORD, FUNCTION WORD, PASSWORD, SWEARWORD, WATCHWORD, WEASEL WORD

2 [count] : a brief remark or conversation : something that a person says • You can't believe a word (of what) she says. [=you can't believe anything she says] • Describe the experience in your own words. • The lawyer used Joe's words against him. • Could I have a word with you? [=could I talk with you briefly?] • They gave me a word of warning [=they told me about] about the slippery roads. • Don't say/breathe a word [=don't talk] about this to anyone. • My grandfather was a man of few words. [=a man who did not talk very much] • I've been asked to say a few words [=make a short speech or statement] about the new play.

3 [singular] : an order or command • She gave the word to begin. • We will wait for your word before we serve dinner.

4 [singular] : news or information • (Is there) Any word on how they are? • If word of this gets out, we're all in trouble. • What's the word? • There is still no word from the hospital. • Spread the word [=tell the others] that we're leaving in five minutes. • They sent word [=sent a message] that they'd be late. • Word has it [=I have heard] that the neighbors are moving next month. • The police put/got the word out that they were looking for him. [=the police let people know that they were looking for him]

5 [singular] : a promise to do something • I'll be there. I give you my word. [=I promise] • You'd better keep your word. [=keep your promise to do something] • He is a man of his word. = His word is his bond. [=he always keeps his promises] • I told her I'd help. I can't go back on my word. [=I can't break my promise] • You'll have to take my word for it. [=you'll have to believe me] • She was true to her word. [=she did what she said she would do] — see also WORD OF HONOR (below)

6 words [plural] : angry remarks • Words were exchanged [=people said angry things to each other] and a fight broke out. • He had words [=had an argument] with his boss.

7 the Word religion : stories and lessons of the Bible • the Word of God

actions speak louder than words see ACTION

a picture is worth a thousand words see ¹WORTH

at a loss for words see LOSS

a word in someone's ear chiefly Brit : a remark that is made privately to someone • May I have a word in your ear [=may I speak to you privately] before you leave?

a word to the wise — used to say that you are about to give someone advice or a warning • A word to the wise: never sign a contract without reading it first.

by word of mouth : by being told by another person • We found this hotel by word of mouth.

eat your words see EAT

from the word go informal : from the beginning • The show was a success from the word go. • We were in trouble (right) from the word go.

get a word in edgewise see EDGEWISE

good word : a favorable comment • Please put in a good word for me [=say something good about me] when you talk to the boss. • (US; informal) I haven't seen you in ages! What's the good word? [=how's it going?; how are you?]

hang on someone's every word see ¹HANG

in a word : very briefly : in short — used to indicate that you are saying something by using only one word or by using as few words as possible • Our answer, in a word, is no.

in other words — used to introduce a statement that repeats what has been said in a different and usually a simpler or more exact way • "She said the movie was a bit predictable." "In other words, she didn't like it." • So, in other words, you're saying that you forgot to do it.

in so many words also in as many words : in exactly those words or in exactly that way — usually used in negative statements • "Did he say he wouldn't do it?" "Not in so many words, but that was the impression I got."

in words of one syllable : in clear and simple terms • We explained our views to the press in words of one syllable.

lost for words see ²LOST

mark my words see ²MARK

mum's the word see ¹MUM

play with words see ¹PLAY

put words in/into someone's mouth : to suggest that someone said or meant something that he or she did not say or mean • Don't *put words in my mouth*. I wasn't defending his actions, despite what you may think.

say the word : to give an order • When you want to leave (just) *say the word*.

take the words right out of someone's mouth : to say exactly what someone was thinking • I agree! You *took the words right out of my mouth*!

the last/final word **1** : the final thing said in an argument or a discussion • Your mother's decision is *the final word* on the matter. • Why do you always have to *have the last word*? [=to be the last person to speak] **2** : the power to make a final decision • The judge will have *the last word* [=the final say] on the divorce agreement. **3 informal** : the most modern or best one of its kind • This is *the last word* in wireless phones. • The van's design is *the last word* in safety.

(upon) my word somewhat old-fashioned — used to express surprise • *My word*, what a beautiful dress!

war of words : an argument in which people or groups criticize and disagree with each other publicly and repeatedly for usually a long time • Rival groups have engaged in a *war of words* over the new law.

word for word : in the exact words • He gave the same *speech word for word* [=verbatim] yesterday.

word of honor ♦ Your *word of honor* is your promise that you will do something, that something is true, etc. • I give you my *word of honor* that I will pay the money back.

word verb words; word-ed; word-ing [+ *obj*] : to say (something) in a particular way by choosing which words to use • They *worded* [=phrased] their request with great care. • Could we *word* the headline differently? — often used as (*be*) *worded* • Their request *was worded* very carefully. • a carefully *worded* statement

word-ing /'wɜːdɪŋ/ *noun* [noncount] : the way in which something is said or written : the words that are used to say something • What's the exact *wording* of the agreement?

word-less /'wɜːdləs/ *adj* : without using words : without speaking • a *wordless* agreement
— **word-less-ly** *adv*

word-perfect *adj*, *Brit* : correct in every detail : LETTER-PERFECT • All the actors should be congratulated on a *word-perfect* performance.

word-play /'wɜːdˌpleɪ/ *noun* [noncount] : playful or clever use of words • Oscar Wilde was famous for his witty *word-play*.

word processing *noun* [noncount] : the production of printed pages of writing (such as business letters) that can be stored and printed by using computer equipment • These terminals are used mostly for *word processing*. • *word processing* software

word processor *noun*, *pl* ~ **-sors** [count]

1 : a computer used for creating, storing, and printing text : a computer used for word processing • At work she sits in front of her *word processor* all day.

2 : software used on a computer to perform word processing • She closed down her *word processor* and opened her e-mail program.

wordy /'wɜːdi/ *adj* **word-i-er; -est** [also *more* ~; *most* ~] *disapproving* : using or containing too many words • The original script was too *wordy*. • His writing is very *wordy*. [=verbose]

— **word-i-ly** /'wɜːdəli/ *adv* — **word-i-ness** /'wɜːdɪnəs/ *noun* [noncount]

wore *past tense of* ¹WEAR

work /'wɜːk/ *verb* **works; worked; work-ing**

1 a : to have a job [*no obj*] I started *working* when I was sixteen. • Her husband doesn't *work*. • She *works* part-time at the restaurant. • She has always wanted to *work* in advertising. • She *works* with me. = She and I *work* together. [=she and I have jobs at the same place] • men and women who *work outside the home* [=who have jobs in factories, restaurants, office buildings, etc.] [+ *obj*] She has to *work* two jobs to support her family. • He *works* construction. [=he has a job in which he helps build things] **b** : to do things as part of your job [*no obj*] She *worked* through lunch to get the report done. • I'm not *working* tomorrow—the boss gave me the day off. • He *works* from home. [=his job allows him to stay home and do his work] • I *work* for him. [=I am his employee] • I *work* under her. [=she is my boss/supervisor] [+ *obj*]

He *works* about 60 hours a week. • The job requires that you *work* some nights and weekends. • She is used to *working long hours*. **c** [+ *obj*] : to do work in, on, or at (an area, event, etc.) • She *works* the Northeast region of the state selling insurance. • He was hired as a sportscaster to *work* the games this season. • Crews *work* the quarry all day and night. • farmers *working* the fields • Our family has *worked* this land for centuries.

2 a [*no obj*] : to do something that involves physical or mental effort • She is *working* in the garden. • They *worked* all day (at) cleaning the house. • I can't *work* with all of this noise. • The principal *worked* hard to improve the school. • We're *working* toward a solution. • I enjoy *working* with my hands. [=using my hands to do or make things] • a sculptor who *works* in/with stone [=who makes things out of stone] **b** [+ *obj*] : to force (someone or something) to do something that involves physical or mental effort • The exercise is designed to *work* the muscles in your chest. • The coach *worked* her team hard during practice. • She *worked us into the ground*. [=she made us work very hard and become very tired]

3 [+ *obj*] : to use and control (something) • I don't know how to *work* your cell phone. • Who is *working* the machine? • The pump is *worked* by hand.

4 [*no obj*] : to perform or operate in the correct way • The computer isn't *working* (properly). • Is the elevator *working* again? • I can't get this thing to *work*.

5 [*no obj*] **a** : to have the intended effect or result • The medicine seems to be *working*. • Their plan *worked*. • The idea sounds good in theory, but it will never *work* in practice. • The commercial doesn't *work* for me. [=I don't like it; it doesn't affect me the way it is supposed to] • a dish detergent that *works like magic* [=that is very effective] **b** *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to have a particular effect or result • You need to do what *works* best for you. • Red curtains would *work* well in this room. • I think you'll get the job. Being bilingual definitely *works in your favor*. [=it helps or benefits you] • Her lack of experience *worked against her* in the election. [=it made her less likely to win in the election]

6 [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to happen • I'll do my best, but I can't *work miracles*. [=I can't make miracles happen] • He's a brilliant chef who *works magic* [=does special or remarkable things] with the most basic ingredients.

7 : to move (something) into or out of a particular position slowly or with difficulty [+ *obj*] She *worked* her foot into the shoe. • The screw had *worked* itself loose. [=the screw had become loose] [*no obj*] The glue would stop the knot from *working* loose. [=from becoming loose] — see also WORK YOUR WAY (below)

8 [+ *obj*] : to bring (something) into a desired shape or form by cutting it, pressing it, etc. • *Work* the dough with your hands until it is smooth. • a blacksmith *working* a piece of iron

9 [+ *obj*] : to talk to and try to gain the friendship or support of (the people in a group) • The singer *worked* the crowd throughout the whole concert. • He's a politician who really knows how to *work a room*. [=how to talk to the people in a room to get their support, approval, etc.]

work around or chiefly Brit work round [*phrasal verb*] **1** *work around/round (something)* : to organize things or proceed in a way that avoids (something, such as a problem) • We'll just have to find a way to *work around* the problem. **2** *work around/round to (something)* : to start talking or writing about (a subject, issue, etc.) after talking or writing about other things • He eventually *worked around to* the company's financial situation.

work at [*phrasal verb*] *work at (something)* : to make an effort to do (something) better • He needs to *work at* his handwriting. • She has been *working* (harder) *at* controlling her temper.

work in [*phrasal verb*] **1** *work (something) in or work in (something)* **a** : to add or include (something) in a conversation, essay, etc. • During the speech, he *worked in* a few jokes. • She *worked in* several important points in her article. **b** : to stir or mix (something) into something • *Work in* the blueberries. **2** *work (someone or something) in US* : to make an amount of time available for (someone or something) • My schedule is pretty full, but I think I can *work you in* [=fit you in] at 11:30.

work into [*phrasal verb*] **1** *work (something) into (something)* **a** : to add or include (something) in (something) • You should *work* more fresh fruit *into* your diet. • She tried to find a way of *working* her question *into* the conversa-

tion. **b** : to stir or mix (something) into (something) • *Work the blueberries into the mixture.* **2 work (someone) into (something)** : to gradually cause (someone) to be in (an excited, angry, or frightened state) • The DJ *worked the crowd into* a frenzy. • He *worked himself into* a rage/panic. **work it/things informal** : to arrange your activities in a particular way so that it is possible for something to happen or be done • I'm supposed to be helping my sister that night, but I'll try to *work things* so that I can come to your party. **work off [phrasal verb] work off (something) or work (something) off** **1** : to pay (a debt) by working • She *worked off* her loan. • His parents are making him *work off* the cost of the bike he ruined. **2** : to lose or get rid of (something) by physical activity • He walks every day to *work* the extra weight off. • Jogging is a great way to *work off* stress. **work on [phrasal verb]** **1 a work on (something)** : to be in the process of making (something), doing (something), etc. • The director is *working on* a new movie. • I *worked on* this physics problem for three hours. • He is in the garage *working on* the car. • Scientists are beginning to *work on* a cure. **b work on doing (something)** : to make an effort to do (something) • They are currently *working on finding* a cure. [=trying to find a cure] • You have to *work on controlling* your temper. **2 work on (someone)** : to try to influence or persuade (someone) to do something • She is *working on* them to change their votes. **work out [phrasal verb]** **1** : to perform athletic exercises in order to improve your health or physical fitness • She *works out* at the gym twice a week. **2 a** : to happen, develop, or end in a desired or successful way • Our plan *worked out* perfectly. • We broke up because things didn't *work out* between us. **b** : to happen, develop, or end in a particular way or to have a particular result • Despite some difficulties, everything *worked out* well. • Things don't always *work out* the way you want them to. • I'm not sure how the story will *work out*. • How is your new roommate *working out*? [=how are things going with your new roommate?] • It will *work out* (to be) cheaper [=it will be cheaper] if we take the bus instead of the train. • With tax, it *worked out at/to* just over \$115. [=the total amount was just over \$115] **3 work out (something) or work (something) out** **a** : to find or create (something, such as a solution or a plan) by thinking • I'm trying to *work out* [=figure out] a way to do it. • We *worked out* a plan to save money. • We'll *work* the details out later. • I don't know how you're going to get there. You have to *work* that out for yourself. **b** : to use mathematics to solve (something) • She *worked out* the problem on a piece of paper. **4 work (someone) out or work out (someone) Brit** : to understand the behavior of (someone) • He does these crazy things, and I just can't *work* him out. [=figure him out] **work over [phrasal verb] work (someone) over informal** : to hurt (someone) by hitting, kicking, etc. • He looked like someone had *worked* him over [=beat him up] pretty good. **work through [phrasal verb]** : to deal with (something that is difficult or unpleasant) successfully • He saw a psychologist to help him *work through* his depression. • She *worked through* the pain without medication. **work to [phrasal verb] work to (something) chiefly Brit** : to work within the limits of (something) • We have to *work to* a very tight budget. **work up [phrasal verb]** **1 work (someone) up** : to make (someone) feel very angry, excited, upset, etc. • Don't *work* yourself up again. — see also WORKED UP **2 work up (something) or work (something) up** **a** : to produce (something) by physical or mental effort • I *worked up* a sweat at the gym. • He managed to *work up* the courage to ask her out on a date. **b chiefly Brit** : to improve your skill at (something) or increase your knowledge of (something) • I need to *work up* my French for the exam. **c chiefly Brit** : to develop or expand (something) — usually + *into* • He *worked up* the short story *into* a novel. **3 work up to (something)** : to reach (something, such as a rate or level) by gradually increasing in speed, intensity, etc. • The ship gradually *worked up to* full speed. • The story starts slow but *works up to* a brilliant conclusion. **work wonders** see ¹WONDER **work your fingers to the bone** see ¹FINGER **work your magic** see ¹MAGIC **work your way** : to move yourself into or out of a particular position slowly or with difficulty • The prisoner somehow *worked his way* out of the handcuffs. • I *worked my way* to the center of the crowd. • They started *working their way*

cautiously down the side of the mountain. — sometimes used figuratively • He had *worked his way* into her heart. • She is slowly *working her way* to the top of the company. ♦ If you *work your way through college/school*, you have a job that helps you pay for your expenses while you go to college/school. • He is *working his way through college*.

²work noun, pl works

1 [noncount] **a** : a job or activity that you do regularly especially in order to earn money • How is *work* [=your job] going? • She is trying to find *work* in publishing. • How long have you been looking for *work*? • He started *work* as a car salesman. • I know him through *work*. • When do you get off *work*? [=when do you stop working for the day?] • She goes to the gym after *work*. [=after she has finished working] • full-time/part-time *work* • She plans to *return to work* [=start working her job again] in four months. • What *line of work* is your wife in? = What does your wife do for *work*? — see also LIFE'S WORK, SOCIAL WORK **b** : the place where you do your job • She didn't come to *work* today. • He left *work* a few minutes ago. • She's not here right now. She's at *work*. • We met at *work*. • She went out with her friends from *work*.

2 [noncount] **a** : the things that you do especially as part of your job • Can you describe your *work* to the class? • A large part of the *work* is responding to e-mails. • administrative/secretarial *work* • My brother did the electrical *work* on the house. • After you finish your *work*, you can go outside and play. • I have a lot of *work* to do. **b** : things (such as papers, files, etc.) that you use to do your job • His *work* cluttered his desk. • She brought some *work* home with her from the office. — see also DONKEY WORK, FIELDWORK, GROUNDWORK, HOMEWORK, HOUSEWORK, LEGWORK, PAPERWORK, PIECEWORK, SCHOOLWORK

3 [noncount] **a** : physical or mental effort that is used to perform a job or achieve a goal • Getting my PhD took a lot of *work*, but it was worth it. • Hard *work* is the key to success. • Careful police *work* led to the murderer's capture. • She hasn't done any *work* since she got here. **b** : the process or activity of working • He plans to start *work* on a new novel soon. • The rain forced the crew to stop *work* on the building. • *Work* on the project is already underway. [=people have started working on the project] • You need to *get down to work* [=start working] if you want to finish the assignment on time. • She *set to work* [=started working] on the project immediately. • She diligently *went about her work*. [=did her work] • He was told to *keep up the good work*. [=to continue doing good work] ♦ Phrases like *good work*, *nice work*, etc., are used to tell people that they have done something very well. • "I finished the project ahead of schedule." "Good work!"

4 a [noncount] : something that is produced or done by someone • Some clever camera *work* gave the illusion that she was standing next to him. • The cabinets are the *work* of a skilled carpenter. [=the cabinets were made by a skilled carpenter] • The robberies were the *work* of [=were done by] the same gang. **b** : something (such as a book, song, or painting) that is produced by a writer, musician, artist, etc. [noncount] I love this painter's *work*. • the author's entire body of *work* [count] the complete/collected *works* of Charles Dickens • literary *works* • the painter's latest *work* • The painting is a *work in progress*. [=it is not yet finished] — see also ARTWORK, HANDIWORK, HANDWORK

5 works [plural] : roads, bridges, dams, and similar structures : structures that are built by engineers • engineering *works* from the 19th century — see also PUBLIC WORKS, WATERWORKS

6 works : a place where industrial labor is done : a factory [singular] He got a job at a cement/lead/steel *works*. [plural] The local steel *works* have shut down. — see also GASWORKS

7 the works : the moving parts of a machine • *the works* of a clock — sometimes used figuratively • The office used to be very efficient, but the new regulations have *gummed up the works*. [=made the work more difficult and slow]

8 the works informal : everything • They ordered a pizza with *the works*. [=with all the different toppings that were available] • When we went to New York, we visited the museums, did some shopping, saw some shows—*the whole works*.

9 [noncount] physics : the energy that is used when a force is applied over a given distance

at work **1 a** : actively doing work • He kept us hard *at work* but paid us well. • We're *at work* on the new project. **b** : doing your regular job • He has been out with a back injury, but he'll be back *at work* soon. **2** : having an effect or influence • She felt that a higher power was *at work*.

have your work cut out for you ✧ If you *have your work cut out for you*, the thing you need to do is very difficult, and you have to work very hard to achieve it. • She knew she *had her work cut out for her*, but she was willing to do whatever it took to succeed.

in the works informal : in the process of being prepared, developed, or completed • Her next movie is already *in the works*. • Plans are *in the works* for building three new schools in the area.

in work Brit : having a regular job • the percentage of people who are *in work* [=people who have jobs]

make short/quick/light work of **1** : to make it possible for (something) to be done quickly or easily • This new snow shovel *makes short work of* clearing off the driveway. ✧ The expression *many hands make light work* means that people can do things more quickly and easily when they work together. **2** : to finish (something) or defeat (someone) quickly and easily • She *made short work of* her opponents. • The kids *made quick work of* the french fries. [=the kids ate the french fries quickly] • He *made light work of* the problem. [=he solved the problem quickly and easily]

out of work : without a regular job • The factory closed and left/put 5,000 people *out of work*. • He has been *out of work* since January. [=he has not had a job since January]

put/throw a spanner in the works see SPANNER

throw a wrench into the works see ¹WRENCH

— see also PIECE OF WORK

³**work** *adj*, always used before a noun

1 : suitable to be worn while you are working • *work clothes/boots*

2 : used for work • a clean *work surface/table*

3 : of or relating to a person's job • What does your *work schedule* look like this week? • a 12-hour *work shift* • There is a place to list your *work experience* [=the jobs that you have had] on the application. • My parents both had a very strong *work ethic*. [=a strong belief in the value and importance of work] • She filed for a *work permit*. [=an official document that shows that a person is allowed to work]

work-able /'wəkəbəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : able to be used successfully • a *workable system/solution* • I think the plan is quite *workable*.

2 : able to be easily shaped or worked with • *workable plastic/wool* • Chill the cookie dough until it is more *workable*.

work-a-day /'wəkə,deɪ/ *adj*, always used before a noun [more ~; most ~] : not unusual or interesting : ORDINARY • Their vacation provided a welcome change from their *workaday* life. • *workaday jobs/activities* • the *workaday* struggles and concerns of the average person

work-a-holic /,wəkə'hɑ:lɪk/ *noun*, *pl* -ics [count] : a person who chooses to work a lot : a person who is always working, thinking about work, etc. • My brother is a real *workaholic* who almost never takes time off.

work-bench /'wək,bentʃ/ *noun*, *pl* -bench-es [count] : a long table that people use when they are working with tools

work-book /'wək,bʊk/ *noun*, *pl* -books [count] : a book that contains problems or exercises and that students use to practice what they are learning in a class

work camp *noun*, *pl* ~ camps [count] : PRISON CAMP

work-day /'wək,deɪ/ *noun*, *pl* -days [count] chiefly US

1 : a day on which you work at a job • On *workdays* I usually wake up at six o'clock. • my *workday* routine

2 : the period of time in a day during which you work at a job • an 8-hour *workday*

worked up *adj*, not used before a noun [more ~; most ~] *informal* : very angry, excited, or upset about something • What is she so *worked up* about? • He got all *worked up* over the football game.

work-er /'wəkə/ *noun*, *pl* -ers [count]

1 a : a person who does a particular job to earn money • The company is planning to hire 200 *workers*. • The average *worker* earned \$1,000 more this year. • office/factory/construction/postal *workers* • skilled *workers* • a migrant *worker* • a full-time/part-time *worker* — see also GUEST WORKER, SOCIAL WORKER **b** : a person who is actively involved in a particular activity — often used in combination • aid/rescue/research *workers*

2 : a person whose job does not involve managing other people • If management doesn't make the changes, the *workers* will go on strike.

3 : a person who works in a particular way • They are both hard/fast/good *workers*.

4 : a type of bee, ant, etc., that does most of the work in a

colony of insects • *worker bees*

workers' compensation *noun* [noncount] US : a system of insurance that pays an employee who cannot work because he or she has been injured while working — called also *workers' comp*

workfare /'wək,feə/ *noun* [noncount] : a program in which people must do work in order to receive money from the government for food, housing, medical costs, etc.

work-force /'wək,foəs/ *noun* [singular]

1 : the group of people who work for a particular organization or business • We have a *workforce* of 2,400 people.

2 : the number of people in a country or area who are available for work • the nation's *workforce*

work-horse /'wək,hoəs/ *noun*, *pl* -hors-es [count]

1 : a dependable person who does a lot of work

2 : a dependable machine or vehicle that is used to do a lot of work

work-house /'wək,haus/ *noun*, *pl* -hous-es [count] Brit : POORHOUSE

work-ing /'wəkɪŋ/ *adj*, always used before a noun

1 : having a job • the *working* population • *working* mothers [=mothers who also have paying jobs] • a politician who is popular among *working* people [=among people who are not rich and powerful and who have jobs that usually do not pay a lot of money]

2 a : of or relating to a person's job • poor *working* conditions • regular/flexible *working* hours • There is a good *working* relationship between the departments. • She spent most of her *working* life/years [=most of the time when she was working] in politics. • We had a *working* lunch. [=we discussed work while we ate lunch] **b** : suitable to be worn while working • *working* clothes/boots

3 a : doing work • the *working* parts of the machine • a *working* farm **b** : relating to the work done by a machine, system, etc. • She made sure that everything was *in (good) working order/condition*. [=made sure that everything was working properly]

4 a : good enough to be used or useful although not perfect • The person hired for this position should have at least a *working* knowledge of German. [=should be able to read and understand German fairly well] **b** : large enough to be effective • The party has a *working* majority in the Senate.

5 — used to describe something that is used while work is being done on something (such as a project) and that may be changed later • a *working* agreement/title/hypothesis

working capital *noun* [noncount] *business* : money that is available for use while running a business

working class *noun*

the working class also Brit *the working classes* : the class of people who earn money by doing usually physical work and who are not rich or powerful — compare LOWER CLASS, MIDDLE CLASS, UNDERCLASS, UPPER CLASS

— **working-class** *adj*, always used before a noun • *working-class* virtues • a *working-class* family

working day *noun*, *pl* ~ days [count] chiefly Brit : WORKDAY

working girl *noun*, *pl* ~ girls [count] *informal*

1 : a young woman who has a job

2 chiefly Brit, somewhat old-fashioned : PROSTITUTE

working papers *noun* [plural] US : official documents that allow a person who is younger than 16 years old or who was born in a different country to have a job in the U.S.

working party *noun*, *pl* ~ parties [count] Brit : a group of people who investigate a particular problem and suggest ways of dealing with it — called also *working group*

work-ings /'wəkɪŋz/ *noun* [plural]

1 : the moving parts that are inside a machine : the working parts of something • There was a problem with the clock's inner *workings*.

2 : the ways in which something works — usually + *of* • We learned about the inner *workings* of the government.

working week *noun*, *pl* ~ weeks [count] chiefly Brit : WORKWEEK

work-load /'wək,ləʊd/ *noun*, *pl* -loads [count] : the amount of work that is expected to be done • Students complained about the heavy *workload*.

work-man /'wək,mən/ *noun*, *pl* -men /-mən/ [count] : a skilled worker (such as an electrician or carpenter)

work-man-like /'wək,mən,ləɪk/ *adj* : done with the skill expected of a good worker or performer but usually not in very exciting or impressive way • He did a *workmanlike* job

on the boat. • a *workmanlike* performance • She showed *workmanlike* thoroughness in everything she did.

work·man·ship /'wɜ:k.mən.ʃɪp/ *noun* [noncount] : the quality of the work that is done by someone • He admires good *workmanship*. • The problems were caused by cheap materials and poor *workmanship*. • The excellent *workmanship* of the cabinets is remarkable.

work·mate /'wɜ:k.meɪt/ *noun*, *pl* -mates [count] chiefly Brit : a person who works with you : COWORKER

work of art *noun*, *pl* works of art [count]

1 : something that is made by an artist : a painting, sculpture, etc., that is created to be beautiful or to express an important idea or feeling • a beautiful *work of art*

2 : something that is attractive and skillfully made • The wedding cake was a real *work of art*.

work·out /'wɜ:k.aʊt/ *noun*, *pl* -outs [count] : a period of physical exercise that you do in order to improve your fitness, ability, or performance • The team had a good *workout* at practice today. • Her *workout* includes running on the treadmill and lifting weights.

work·place /'wɜ:k.pleɪs/ *noun*, *pl* -places [count] : the office, factory, etc., where people work • a clean, comfortable *workplace* • Foul language will not be tolerated in the *workplace*. • *workplace romances* [=romances between people who work together]

work release *noun* [noncount] US : the practice of allowing a prisoner to work outside of the prison during the day • a *work-release* program • prisoners on *work release*

work·room /'wɜ:k.ru:m/ *noun*, *pl* -rooms [count] : a room used for doing work usually inside a store • There is a *workroom* at the back of the tailor's shop.

work·sheet /'wɜ:k.ʃi:t/ *noun*, *pl* -sheets [count]

1 : a piece of paper that contains printed exercises and problems to be done by a student

2 : a printed form that is used in planning or calculating something • a tax *worksheet*

work·shop /'wɜ:k.ʃɔ:p/ *noun*, *pl* -shops [count]

1 : a place where things are made or repaired • He's in his *workshop* working on the lawnmower.

2 : a class or series of classes in which a small group of people learn the methods and skills used in doing something • a photography/music *workshop*

work·shy *adj* [more ~; most ~] Brit, disapproving : not willing to work : LAZY • *work-shy* layabouts

work·sta·tion /'wɜ:k.steɪʃən/ *noun*, *pl* -tions [count]

1 : an area that has the equipment needed for one person to do a particular job • Employees should keep their *workstations* neat and organized.

2 : a computer that is connected to a computer network

work·study program *noun*, *pl* ~-grams [count] US : a program that gives high school or college students the opportunity to work in a particular field in order to gain experience

work·top /'wɜ:k.tɒ:p/ *noun*, *pl* -tops [count] Brit : ¹COUNTER 2a

work·to·rule *noun* [singular] : the practice by workers of refusing to do any work that is not strictly required as a part of their jobs in order to protest something (such as unfair working conditions)

work·week /'wɜ:k.wi:k/ *noun*, *pl* -weeks [count] US : the total amount of hours or days that you spend working at a job in one week • a 5-day/40-hour *workweek* • a shortened *workweek* — called also (chiefly Brit) *working week*

¹**world** /'wɜ:ld/ *noun*, *pl* worlds

1 a the world : the earth and all the people and things on it • the countries/people/languages of *the world* • He is famous throughout *the world*. • They sailed around *the world*. • people from (all) around/across *the world* = people from all over *the world* • the tallest building in *the* (whole/entire) *world* = *the world's* tallest building • It can be found anywhere/everywhere in *the world*. • The product is shipped *halfway around/across the world*. • The problem occurs in many/other/different *parts of the world*. • The island was cut off from *the rest of the world*. • They want to *see/travel the world*. **b** [count] : a part of the world and the people and things that exist there • the Eastern and Western *worlds* • the industrialized *world* • people living in the English-speaking *world* — see also FIRST WORLD, NEW WORLD, OLD WORLD, THIRD WORLD

2 [count] : human society • the history of the *world* • the ancient and modern *worlds* • I felt alone in the *world*. • She became depressed and withdrew from the *world*. • In an ideal/

perfect *world*, no one would go hungry. • ambitious students who want to *change the world* • She seems ignorant of the *ways of the world*. ♦ *The real world* is the world where everyone lives, works, and deals with everyday problems. • After college, she went out into *the real world* and got a job. • He seems out of touch with *the real world*.

3 the world : the people in the world • She felt that *the world* was against her. • We had no help or support. It was just us against *the world*. • They announced their discovery to *the world*. • He sat in a café watching *the world* go by. [=watching people go by] • *The world* watched as he attempted to break the Olympic record. • She felt *the eyes of the world* watching her. • It's a private matter. I wish you wouldn't tell *the whole world* about it! ♦ *The outside world* refers to the people who live outside of a particular place or who do not belong to a particular group. • The inmates have little contact with *the outside world*. • a local artist who was unknown to *the outside world*

4 [count] **a** : a particular kind of interest, activity, or social situation, or the people who are involved in it • the art/music/fashion *world* • the business and financial *worlds* • the *world* of the rich and famous — see also TWILIGHT WORLD **b** : a group of things of a particular type • the animal/plant/insect *world* **c** : a particular environment • the natural *world* • exploring the underwater *world* • Technology is forever changing our *world*.

5 [count] **a** : a particular part of human life and experience • the physical/material/spiritual *world* **b** : the life and experiences of a particular person • His (whole/entire) *world* fell apart when his wife left him. • She acts as if she doesn't *have a care in the world*. [=she acts as if she has no worries at all]

6 [count] : a planet where there is life : a planet that is like Earth • stories about other *worlds* • a creature from another *world*

7 [singular] *informal* : a great amount of something • He's in a *world of* trouble. [=a lot of trouble] • The new mattress made a *world of* difference. • A vacation would do you a *world of* good.

8 the world : all that is important : EVERYTHING • I would give my children *the world* if I could. • She *means the world* to me. [=she is extremely important to me; I care about her very much] • It would *mean the world* to me if you came with me. • He *thinks the world of* you. [=he thinks very highly of you]

all the time in the world : a great deal of time to do something • Hurry up! We don't have *all the time in the world*!

a world away from : completely different from (something) • This small village is *a world away from* the hustle and bustle of the city.

come down in the world : to become less wealthy, successful, etc. • It is sad to see how he has *come down in the world*.

come into the world *formal + literary* : to be born • Their son *came into the world* at 10:32 p.m. on January 14, 2003.

dead to the world see ¹DEAD

for all the world : in every way : exactly • The copy looked *for all the world* like the original.

for the world *informal* : for any reason — used to make a statement more forceful • I wouldn't miss your wedding *for the world*.

in the world *informal* : among many possibilities — used to make a question or statement more forceful • What *in the world* [=on earth] are you talking about? • Where *in the world* were you? • How *in the world* could you do that to her? • This is the best apple pie *in the world*. • There is nothing *in the world* I would like better than to go to your wedding.

in your own world or in a world of your own ♦ If you *are/live in a world of your own* or *are/live in your own* (little) *world*, you spend so much time thinking about something that you do not notice what is happening around you. • I tried to talk to him, but he *was in his own little world* and didn't seem to hear what I was saying.

(it's a) small world — used to show surprise when you meet someone you know at an unexpected place or find out that you share a friend, acquaintance, etc., with another person • You know him, too? Wow, *it's a small world*.

move up in the world : to become more wealthy, successful, etc. • He has really *moved up in the world*.

not long for this world : about to die soon • His grandfather is *not long for this world*.

not the end of the world see ¹END

on top of the world see ¹TOP

out of this world *informal* : very good : EXCELLENT • My

mom's apple pie is *out of this world*.

promise (someone) the world see ²PROMISE

set the world on fire also chiefly Brit **set the world alight** informal : to be very successful and attract a lot of attention • The company is doing all right, but they haven't exactly *set the world on fire*.

the best of all (possible) worlds : the best possible situation • The current economic situation is *the best of all possible worlds* for investors.

the best/worst of both worlds ✧ When you have *the best of both worlds*, you have all the advantages of two different situations and none of the disadvantages. • I have *the best of both worlds*—a wonderful family and a great job. When you have *the worst of both worlds*, you have all the disadvantages of two different situations and none of the advantages. • Living in the suburbs is *the worst of both worlds*—there's neither the excitement of the city nor the quiet of the country.

the (whole) world over : everywhere in the world • His books have entertained readers *the world over*.

the world is your oyster see OYSTER

world (is) coming to ✧ People say that they *don't know what the world is coming to* or they ask *What is the world coming to?* when they are shocked or disgusted by something that has happened. • I *don't know what the world is coming to* when so many poor children have to go to bed hungry every night.

world revolves around 1 ✧ If you think *the world revolves around you*, you think that your own life, problems, etc., are more important than other people's. • I can't just drop everything to help you. *The world doesn't revolve around you, you know.* 2 ✧ If *your world revolves around (someone or something)*, that person or thing is extremely important in your life. • *Their world revolves around their children.*

world(s) apart ✧ If something is *a world apart* from something else, or if two people or things are *worlds apart*, they are completely different. • The place where she lives now is *a world apart* from the small town where she grew up. • They are *worlds apart* [=they disagree very much] on most issues.

— see also MAN OF THE WORLD, WOMAN OF THE WORLD

²**world** *adj*, always used before a noun

1 : of or relating to the whole world • *world history/leaders* • She broke the *world record*. • They won the *world championship*.

2 a : extending or found throughout the world : WORLD-WIDE • *world peace* b : involving many parts of the world or the whole world • a *world tour* c : known or famous throughout the world • a *world authority* on gemstones

world-beat-er /'wɜːld,bi:tə/ *noun*, pl **-ers** [count] : someone or something that is better than all others of the same kind • He's a pretty good golfer, but he's no *world-beater*.

— **world-beat-ing** /'wɜːld,bi:tɪŋ/ *adj* • a *world-beating athlete/car*

world-class *adj* : among the best in the world • a *world-class athlete*

World Cup *noun*, pl ~ **Cups** [count] : an international competition in a sport (such as soccer or hockey) • they won the *World Cup* • the *World Cup finals*

world-famous *adj* : famous throughout the world • a *world-famous scientist*

world-ly /'wɜːldli/ *adj*

1 always used before a noun : of or relating to the human world and ordinary life rather than to religious or spiritual matters • *worldly goods/pleasures*

2 [more ~; most ~] : having a lot of practical experience and knowledge about life and the world • She is more *worldly* than her younger sister.

— **world-li-ness** *noun* [noncount]

world-ly-wise /'wɜːldli,waɪz/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : having or showing a lot of experience and knowledge about life and the world : WORLDLY • He is very *worldly-wise* for someone so young.

world music *noun* [noncount] : popular music that is based on musical traditions from different parts of the world and that often has a rhythm that you can dance to

world power *noun*, pl ~ **-ers** [count] : a country that is powerful enough to affect the entire world by its influence or actions

world-renowned *adj* : known and admired throughout

the world : WORLD-FAMOUS • a *world-renowned* authority on energy conservation

World Series *noun*, pl **World Series** [count]

1 *baseball* : the annual championship of the major leagues in the United States • the first game of the *World Series* • The team has played in three *World Series*.

2 *US* : a contest or event that is the most important one of its kind • This tournament is the *World Series* of poker.

world's fair *noun*, pl ~ **fairs** [count] chiefly *US* : a very large public event at which things from all over the world are displayed

world-view /'wɜːld,vjuː/ *noun*, pl **-views** [count] : the way someone thinks about the world • a scientific/religious/cultural *worldview* • The two groups have very different *world-views*.

world war *noun*, pl ~ **wars** : a war involving many nations of the world [count] the *First World War* = *World War I* [=the war that was fought mainly in Europe from 1914 to 1918] • the *Second World War* = *World War II* [=the war that was fought mainly in Europe and Asia from 1939 to 1945] • He fought in both *World Wars*. [noncount] The nations were prepared for *world war*.

world-wea-ry /'wɜːld,wɪri/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : no longer having or showing excitement or interest in life • a *world-weary* young man • She spoke in a *world-weary* voice.

— **world-wea-ri-ness** *noun* [noncount]

world-wide /'wɜːld'waɪd/ *adj* : happening or existing in all parts of the world • *worldwide* disarmament • a *worldwide network* • News of the attack attracted *worldwide* attention. — **worldwide** *adv* • The disease affects millions of people *worldwide*.

World Wide Web *noun*

the *World Wide Web* : the part of the Internet that you can look at with a special program (called a browser) and that is made up of many documents which are linked together — abbr. *www* — called also *the Web*

¹**worm** /'wɜːm/ *noun*, pl **worms**

1 [count] : a long, thin animal that has a soft body with no legs or bones and that often lives in the ground • I often see *worms* in the garden. • We always used *worms* as bait for fishing. — see also EARTHWORM

2 [count] : the young form of some insects that looks like a small worm — see also GLOWWORM, SILKWORM

3 [count] informal + disapproving : a person who is not liked or respected : a very bad person • I didn't think that she would go on a date with that *worm*. [=wretch]

4 *worms* [plural] : an infection or a disease caused by tiny worms that live inside the body of an animal or person • The veterinarian told us that our dog has *worms*. — see also ROUNDWORM, TAPEWORM

5 [count] *computers* : a computer virus that causes damage to computers connected to each other by a network

can of worms see ²CAN

the early bird catches/gets the worm see ²EARLY

the worm turns informal — used to talk about how a situation can suddenly change so that a person who has been weak, unlucky, unsuccessful, etc., can become strong, lucky, successful, etc. • *The worm turns* quickly in the world of politics. • Some investors believe that *the worm has turned*, and that the economy is getting better.

— **worm-like** /'wɜːm,laɪk/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] • tiny *worm-like* creatures

²**worm** *verb* **worms; wormed; worm-ing**

1 always followed by an adverb or preposition : to move or proceed by twisting and turning [no obj] He slowly *wormed* through the crowd. [+ obj] He slowly *wormed* his way through the crowd.

2 [+ obj] : to give (an animal) medicine that destroys the small worms that live inside it and cause illness • *worm* a puppy • You should have the dog vaccinated and *wormed*.

worm into [phrasal verb] **worm (your way or yourself) into (something)** informal : to get (yourself) into (a desired position, situation, etc.) in a gradual and usually clever or dishonest way • I *wormed my way into* a job at the theater. • He somehow managed to *worm himself back into* her life.

worm out of [phrasal verb] informal 1 **worm (something) out of (someone)** : to get (information) from (someone) by asking many questions, by using clever methods of persuasion, etc. • We're still trying to *worm it out of* him. • She finally *wormed* the truth *out of* him. [=she finally got him to tell her the truth] 2 **worm out of (something) or worm (your way) out of (something)** : to avoid doing (something)

in usually a clever or dishonest way • He always managed to *worm his way out of* doing the dishes.

worm-hole /'wɜ:m,həʊl/ *noun*, *pl* -holes [count]

1 : a hole or passage made by a worm • We found tiny *worm-holes* in the potatoes.

2 *technical* : a hole or tunnel in outer space that some people believe connects two very distant places • a *wormhole* in space

worm-wood /'wɜ:m,wʊd/ *noun* [noncount] : a plant that has a bitter taste

wormy /'wɜ:mi/ *adj* **worm-i-er; -est** [also more ~; most ~]

1 : full of worms or damaged by worms • *wormy* fruit

2 : resembling a worm • *wormy* [=wormlike] creatures

worn *past participle of* ¹WEAR

worn-out /'wɔ:n'au/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 *of a thing* : too old or damaged from use to be used any longer • My jeans were *worn-out* and I needed a new pair. • *worn-out* seat cushions

2 : very tired : EXHAUSTED • I'm *worn-out* after that hike. • The horses are *worn-out* from the long ride.

wor-ried /'wɜ:riəd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : feeling or showing fear and concern because you think that something bad has happened or could happen • Her parents became *worried* when she didn't come home by dark. • We were *worried* that we would arrive late. • She's always *worried* about money. • I'm not *worried* at all about the weather. • She had a *worried* look on her face. • I'm very *worried* about the test results. • He has plenty to be *worried* about. • We've been *worried sick* [=extremely worried] about you! • You *had me worried* there for a moment—I thought that you really hurt yourself. • Oh, I'm so glad you're not quitting! You really *had me worried*.

— **wor-ried-ly** /'wɜ:ridli/ *adv*

wor-ri-er /'wɜ:riə/ *noun*, *pl* -ers [count] : a person who worries too much or who worries about unimportant things • She's a real *worrier*. • He's such a *worrier*.

wor-ri-some /'wɜ:risəm/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *chiefly* US : causing people to worry • *worrisome* [=upsetting] news • There is the *worrisome* possibility of hurricane damage on the coast. • a very *worrisome* situation

¹**wor-ry** /'wɜ:ri/ *verb* -ries; -ried; -ry-ing

1 : to think about problems or fears : to feel or show fear and concern because you think that something bad has happened or could happen [no obj] We didn't want you to *worry*. • Don't *worry*. You'll be fine. • Don't make your parents *worry*. • When they didn't call after two hours, we began to *worry*. • They were fine. We needn't have *worried*. — often + *about* • Let the travel agent *worry about* the details. • Haven't we got enough to *worry about*? • We don't have to *worry about* choosing a restaurant. [=someone else will choose a restaurant] • The nurse said her condition was *nothing to worry about* [=her condition was not serious] • I'll take care of it. *Don't worry about a thing*. — sometimes + *over* • She *worried over* her husband's health. [+ obj] — + *that* • Medical experts *worry that* a new strain of the virus will be more difficult to contain. • We *worry that* children don't get enough exercise. • My parents *worry* [=fear] *that* I won't go to college.

2 [+ obj] : to make (someone) anxious or upset : to cause (someone) to worry • His poor health *worries* me. • What's *worrying* you? [=what is causing you to feel upset?] • It doesn't seem to *worry* him that rain is in the forecast. • We didn't tell you about the accident because we didn't want to *worry* you. • *Don't worry yourself*. [=don't be upset or concerned] • He *worried himself sick* [=he was extremely worried] before the exam.

not to worry *informal* — used to say that there is no cause for concern or worry • "It looks like we're almost out of milk." "Not to worry. I'll get some more when I go to the store this afternoon."

worry at [phrasal verb] **worry at** (something) *chiefly* Brit 1 : to pull, twist, or bite (something) repeatedly • The dog was in the corner *worrying at* a bone. 2 : to try to solve (a problem) by thinking about it for a long time • She kept *worrying at* the problem all day.

²**worry** *noun*, *pl* -ries

1 [noncount] : a feeling of concern about something bad that might happen : the state or condition of worrying about something : ANXIETY • His mother's health is a constant source of *worry*. [=concern] • She finally ended months of *worry* over her credit card debt when she finished paying off her bill. • His high blood pressure is cause for *worry*. • Her parents have been *sick with worry* [=extremely worried] for days since the accident.

2 [count] : a problem or concern : something that causes you to be worried • Our greatest *worry* is that she'll get lost. • His only *worry* right now is getting to the airport on time. • What's your *worry*? [=what are you worried about?] • His money *worries* [=difficulties] are over. • His mother's health is a *constant worry*. • Her lost luggage was *the least of her worries* [=an unimportant problem] at the moment.

no worries *chiefly* Australia + Brit, *informal* — used to say that there is no reason to worry • "What if we miss the bus?" "No worries [=no problem], there's another one in seven minutes."

worry beads *noun* [plural] : small beads on a string that people hold and move with their fingers in order to have something to do when they are nervous

wor-ry-wart /'wɜ:ri,wɔ:t/ *noun*, *pl* -warts [count] US, *informal* : a person who worries too much or who worries about things that are not important • My father is a real *worrywart*.

¹**worse** /'wɜ:s/ *adj*, *comparative form of* ¹BAD

1 : lower in quality • His schoolwork/grades got *worse* after his parents split up. • Her second book was *worse* than her first one. • Her first book was bad, but her second one is *even worse*. • This one is *no worse* than that one.

2 : less pleasant, attractive, appealing, effective, useful, etc. • Could the situation get any *worse*? • You have even *worse* luck than I do. • It turned out to be a *worse* idea than we originally thought. • She ended up in *worse* shape than when she started. • Things are bad for him now, but he was in a *worse* situation last week. • Cheer up. *Things could be worse*, you know. • I have *even/still worse* news for you. • He broke the vase but *what is worse*, he lied to me about it. • There's *nothing worse than* having wet socks. • My car broke down, and *to make matters worse*, I can't afford to fix it. [=the situation is even worse because I can't afford to fix it]

3 : more serious or severe • Her symptoms have gotten/grown *worse*. • Don't scratch your rash or you'll make it *worse*. • Lying will only get you into *worse* trouble. • The rain got *worse* as the day went on.

4 **a** : in poorer health than before • We thought she had recovered, but then she got/grew/became *worse*. • I feel *worse* today than I felt yesterday. • The medicine seems to have made the patient *worse*. **b** : less happy or pleased • After we talked, I felt even *worse*. • The more I dwelled on my mistakes, *the worse* I felt.

5 : less appropriate or acceptable • There are *worse* ways to spend your money/time. • You couldn't have picked a *worse* time to ask for a raise.

6 : less morally right or good • It may be no *worse* to cheat than to steal. • People have done *worse* things.

7 : less skillful • He's a *worse* dancer than I am. • I've gotten *worse* at golf.

from bad to worse see ¹BAD

worse for wear see ²WEAR

your bark is worse than your bite see ²BARK

²**worse** *adv*, *comparative form of* BADLY

1 : in a worse way • I did much *worse* on my second try. • You drive *worse* than he does. • That isn't an excellent score, but you could have done *worse*. • She was hurt *worse* than I was.

2 — used to say that what is going to be described is worse than what was mentioned before • I got into an accident and suffered a cut on my arm. *Worse*, my car was totaled. • I was scared that they were going to laugh at me—or *worse*, beat me up. • She found out that he was cheating on her. *Even worse*, her friends knew that he was and never told her.

could do worse — used to say that a particular choice, action, etc., is not a bad one • You *could do worse* than to vote for her. [=voting for her would be a good idea]

³**worse** *noun* [noncount] : something that is worse • I didn't want to tell her that *worse* was yet to come. • Her accusations don't bother me. I've been accused of *worse*. • The patient's condition *took a turn for the worse* [=became worse] overnight. • When I lost my job, my life *took a turn for the worse*. *for better or (for) worse* see ³BETTER

if (the) worse comes to (the) worst, if worse comes to worse see ³WORST

wors-en /'wɜ:sn/ *verb* -ens; -ened; -en-ing : to make (something) worse or to become worse [+ obj] Spending more money is only going to *worsen* the problem. [no obj] The situation has *worsened*. • *worsening* conditions

worse off *adj*

1 : having less money and possessions : less wealthy • He was *worse off* financially than he was before.

2 : in a worse position • If you quit school, you will be *worse off*.

¹**wor·ship** /'wɔːʃəp/ verb **-ships; -shipped** also US **-shiped; -ship-ping** also US **-ship-ing**

1 [+ obj] : to honor or respect (someone or something) as a god • Many ancient cultures *worshipped* the sun and moon.

2 : to show respect and love for God or for a god especially by praying, having religious services, etc. [no obj] They *worship* at this temple. [+ obj] I *worship* God in my own way.

3 : to love or honor (someone or something) very much or too much [+ obj] As a kid I *worshipped* [=idolized] my brother. • Our society *worships* money. • He *worships* the ground she walks on. [=he admires/loves her very much] [no obj] My parents *worship* at the altar of money. [=my parents value money too much]

— **wor·ship·per** also US **wor·ship·er** noun, pl **-ship·pers** also US **-ship·ers** [count] • *worshippers* of Buddha — see also SUN WORSHIPPER

²**worship** noun

1 [noncount] : the act of showing respect and love for a god especially by praying with other people who believe in the same god : the act of worshipping God or a god • *worship* of gods and goddesses • The ceremony will be held at our *place/house of worship*. [=at our church, synagogue, etc.] • *Worship* services are held daily.

2 [noncount] : excessive admiration for someone • the media's *worship* of celebrities — see also HERO WORSHIP

3 **Worship** [count] Brit — used as a title when addressing or referring to certain officials (such as mayors and magistrates); used with *his, her, your, or their* • Thank you, *your Worship*.

wor·ship·ful /'wɔːʃəpfəl/ adj [more ~; most ~] : feeling or showing great admiration and love for someone or something • She was greeted by thousands of *worshipful* fans.

¹**worst** /'wɔːst/ adj, superlative form of ¹BAD

1 a : worse than all others • This is the *worst* car I've ever bought. • In my opinion, it's her *worst* book. • It was the *worst* movie I've ever seen. • His *worst* quality is his impatience. • This has got to be the *worst* day of my life. • The *worst* part of working there is the long commute. • My *worst* fears came true. • I am my own *worst* critic. [=I criticize my work more harshly than anyone else] • He lives in the *worst* area of the city. b : least skillful, talented, or successful • He is the *worst* singer I've ever heard. • They're the *worst* team ever.

2 : least appropriate, useful, or helpful • That is the *worst* advice I've ever heard. • I'm having the *worst* luck today. • Leaving now is the *worst* thing you could do. • He is the *worst* person to ask for advice. • You've picked the *worst* time to come over. • She called at the *worst* possible moment.

in the worst way US, informal : very much • I want a new bike *in the worst way*.

worst of all — used to refer to the least pleasant or appealing part of something that has many bad parts • I forgot my backpack, was late for class, and *worst of all*, I studied the wrong material for the test.

your own worst enemy see ENEMY

²**worst** adv, superlative form of BADLY : in the worst way : in a way that is worse than all others • My sister was hurt *worst*. • the areas *worst* hit by the drought • She was voted the *worst-dressed* celebrity of 2005.

³**worst** noun

1 *the worst* : the worst person or thing • What's *the worst* that can happen? • When it comes to dancing, he is *the worst*. • That movie was *the worst*! • He is *the worst* of the bunch. • They warned us to *expect/fear the worst*. [=assume that something very bad would happen] • Go ahead, *do your worst* [=hurt me as much as you can]! I'm not afraid of you! : the worst group of people or things • This city's schools are *the worst* in the nation. = This city's schools are *the nation's worst*. • He is one of *the worst* in the class. • They are *the worst* of enemies. [=they dislike each other very much] : the worst part of something • Even in *the worst* of times, she was hopeful. • It's still raining, but *the worst* of the storm is over now. • *The worst of it is*, I don't even know how to contact her. • The company was operating on high costs and low prices—*the worst of both worlds*.

2 [singular] : someone's or something's least effective or pleasant condition : someone's or something's worst condition — used in phrases like *at your worst* and *at its worst* • This is politics *at its worst*. • He's *at his worst* when he's drunk. • She visited us when the house was *at its worst*.

at worst — used to refer to a result, condition, etc., that is

the worst one possible • *At worst*, you'll have to pay a fine, but you won't lose your license. • He hoped that *at worst* he would suffer only a minor loss in the investment. • At best the government is incompetent, and *at worst*, it is totally corrupt.

bring out the worst in ✧ If someone or something *brings out the worst in you*, that person or thing causes you to use or show your worst qualities. • She seems to *bring out the worst in him*. • I think competition *brings out the worst in* people. • Drinking *brings out the worst in* him. [=makes him behave very badly]

get the worst of it : to lose a fight, argument, battle, etc. • The bruises on his face after the fight showed that he'd *gotten the worst of it*.

if (the) worst comes to (the) worst or if (the) worse comes to (the) worst also if worse comes to worse : if the worst possible thing happens • *If worst comes to worst*, you can always ask me for help.

wor·sted /'wɔːstəd/ noun [noncount] : a type of cloth or yarn made from wool • a suit made of *worsted*

¹**worth** /'wɔːθ/ prep

1 a — used to indicate the value of something • a ruby *worth* five million dollars • This painting is *worth* a fortune. • You should be paid what your labor is *worth*. • Each correct answer is *worth* five points. b : having money and possessions equal in value to (an amount) • an actor *worth* several million dollars • The corporation is *worth* billions of dollars.

2 : good, valuable, or important enough for (something) : deserving of (something) • A carefully written cover letter and resume is *worth* the effort. • It takes a long time to get a table at the restaurant, but the food is well *worth* the wait. • The movie was good, but I didn't think it was *worth* all the fuss/hype. • It's *worth* a try. = It's *worth* trying. • Chicago is *worth* a visit. I think you'll really like it. • Do you think the car is *worth* buying? • It is *worth* noting/mentioning that his father and mother are also doctors. • This book is not *worth* reading. • an idea well *worth* consideration • Going to college was *worth every penny*. • This contract *isn't worth the paper it's written/printed on*. [=this contract has no real value; this contract is not legally valid] • I promise that speaking with her will be *worth your while*. [=speaking with her will be a good/useful thing for you to do] • I had to sacrifice all of my free time to make this film, but in the end, it was all *worth it*. • The repairs cost a lot of money, but they were *worth it*. • It's not *worth* fixing the car. = It's not *worth it* to fix the car. = The car is not *worth* fixing.

a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush see BIRD

a picture is worth a thousand words — used to say that it is often easier to show something in a picture than to describe it with words

for all something or someone is worth : to the fullest extent possible : as much as possible or with as much effort as possible • They milked/exploited their advantage *for all it was worth*. [=they used their advantage to help themselves as much as they could] • He was fighting *for all he was worth*. [=fighting as hard as he could] • I ran *for all I was worth*. [=as fast as I could]

for what it's worth — used to say that you are not sure how helpful something you are about to say will be • *For what it's worth*, I don't think your dad meant to insult you.

not worth the candle see CANDLE

worth your salt see ¹SALT

worth your weight in gold see ¹GOLD

²**worth** noun [noncount]

1 : an amount of something that has a specified value, that lasts for a specified length of time, etc. — + of • He bought 40 dollars' *worth of* gas. [=an amount of gas that costs 40 dollars] • We carried a week's *worth of* food [=an amount of food that will last for a week] on the hike. • She has 15 years' *worth of* experience in advertising. [=she has worked in advertising for 15 years] • 30 pounds' *worth of* rice [=an amount of rice weighing 30 pounds] • She wrote a whole album's *worth of* songs. [=she wrote enough songs to make an album] • A whole day's *worth of* work was erased when I deleted the file.

2 : the amount of money that something is worth : VALUE • A diamond's *worth* is determined partly by its cut and clarity. • The *worth* of the stocks has increased. • The furniture was of little *worth* since it was in such bad condition. • His *personal worth* is estimated at five million dollars. [=all of his money and possessions are worth about five million dollars] 3 : usefulness or importance : VALUE • The painting is of little artistic *worth*. = The painting has little artistic *worth*. [=merit] • He has *proved his worth* to the team. • The book

has *proved its worth* by saving me hundreds of dollars.
your money's worth see MONEY

worth-less /'wəθləs/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 a : having no financial value • *worthless* coins/stocks **b** : having no use, importance, or effect • This land is *worthless* [=useless] for agriculture. • The boots may be nice, but they're *worthless* if they don't fit you. • a *worthless* guarantee • an uninformed, *worthless* opinion

2 : having no good qualities • a *worthless* coward • She's depressed and believes that she's *worthless*.

— **worth-less-ness** *noun* [noncount] • feelings of *worthlessness* • the *worthlessness* of his argument

worth-while /'wəθ,wajəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : worth doing or getting : good enough, important enough, etc., to be worth spending time, effort, or money on • a *worthwhile* investment • The money is for a *worthwhile* cause/charity. • The trip was *worthwhile*. • Seeing my children's joy made building the tree house all *worthwhile*. • Is it *worthwhile* to try to fix my computer?

1 **wor-thy** /'wəði/ *adj* **wor-thi-er**; **-est** [or more ~; most ~]

1 : good and deserving respect, praise, or attention • Your donations will be going to a *worthy* cause. • I consider him a *worthy* opponent. • She is a *worthy* successor to the mayor.

2 : having enough good qualities to be considered important, useful, etc. — usually + *of* • Your achievements are *worthy of* respect. [=your achievements deserve respect] • The suggestion is *worthy of* consideration. • Her latest book is *worthy of* mention. • My girlfriend's parents felt that I wasn't *worthy of* her. [=felt that I was not good enough to be her boyfriend] — sometimes followed by *to* + *verb* • The voters will decide if he is *worthy to become* governor.

worthy of : good enough to have been written, said, done, or created by (someone, especially someone famous) • a symphony *worthy of* Mahler [=the kind of symphony that Mahler would write] — see also **1** WORTHY 2 (above)

— **wor-thi-ness** /'wəðinəs/ *noun* [noncount] • He must prove his *worthiness* to lead the country.

2 **worthy** *noun*, *pl* **wor-thies** [count] : an important or respected person — often used in a joking or disapproving way to refer to people who think of themselves as important • The party was attended by the mayor and a large group of local *worthies*.

would /'wud, wəd, əd/ *verb* [modal verb]

1 — used to indicate what someone said or thought about what was going to happen or be done • She said she *would* be leaving soon. [=she said, "I will be leaving soon"] • She said (that) she *would* help me with my project. • He thought (that) the drive *would* take about two hours. • I had no idea where the path *would* lead me. • They knew (that) I *would* enjoy the trip. • I never thought that she *would* lie to me.

2 — used to talk about a possible situation that has not happened or that you are imagining • You *would* look good in a tuxedo. • If I could leave work early, I *would*. • It *would* be a shame to miss the party. • What *would* you do if you won the lottery? • You *would* be stupid to quit your job. = It *would* be stupid (of you) to quit your job. [=if you quit your job, you will be doing something stupid] • Things *would* be different if I still had that job. • If you lived closer, I *would* see you every day. • If they were coming, they *would* be here by now.

3 — used with *have* to talk about something that did not happen or was not done • She *would have* won the race if she hadn't tripped. • I *would have* stopped by your house had I known you were home. • If you had told me that you were coming, I *would have* picked you up at the airport.

4 — used to say what you think someone should do or to ask for someone's opinion about what to do • If I were you, I *would* go to the hospital. [=I think that you should go to the hospital] • I *would* take the train instead of driving into the city. • I *would* turn back if I were you. • What *would* you do in my situation?

5 — used to say that you want to do or have something • We *would like* to help [=we want to help] in any way we can. • I'd *like* to help, but I'm too busy. • She *would like* to attend college, but she can't afford it right now. • I *would rather* have ice cream than cheesecake. = (more commonly) I'd *rather* have ice cream than cheesecake. • I'd *rather* not go out this evening. [=I don't want to go out this evening] • I *would sooner* die than be enslaved. • I'd *sooner* starve than eat that disgusting food.

6 — used to ask a polite question or to make a polite request, offer, invitation, etc. • *Would* you please help us? • *Would* you care for some tea? • She asked if I *would* have din-

ner with her. • *Would* you mind making a little less noise? = Please make a little less noise, *would* you? • *Would* you come this way, please? [=please come this way] • *Would* it be all right if we left a little early? • I *would like* to see the wine list. • *Would* you like to join me for dinner? • *Would* anyone like more coffee?

7 a — used to say that you are willing to do something • I *would* be glad/delighted to help. = I'd be glad/delighted to help. • I *would* do anything to protect my children. **b** — used in negative statements to say that someone was not willing to do something • He *would not* help us. = (more commonly) He *wouldn't* help us. [=he refused to help us]

8 — used to express a wish • I wish that he *would* call me more often. = I wish he'd call me more often.

9 — used to express your opinion • I *would* hate to have that job. • I *would* love to be in her position.

10 — used to talk about something that always or often happened in the past • When my friend still lived here, we *would* eat lunch together every day. • She *would* always take the nine o'clock bus. = She'd always take the nine o'clock bus.

11 — used with *so* (*that*) to explain why something was done • I packed the vase carefully *so that* it *would* survive the trip. • We left early *so* we *would* be sure to arrive on time.

12 — used to say what you think is probably true • I *would* say that he looks to be around sixty. [=he looks like he might be sixty years old, but I'm not sure] • I *would* think/hope that he was telling the truth, but I really don't know. • "How long will it take?" "I *would* imagine it will take about an hour."

13 — used to say that something is possible or likely • I think my swimming pool *would* [=could] hold 20,000 gallons of water.

14 — used to express your displeasure with behavior that you think is typical of someone • "He said that you were the one who made the mistake." "He *would* say that, *wouldn't* he? What a jerk."

15 *old-fashioned* + *literary* — used to say that you wish something was true, had happened, etc. • I *would* [=wish] I were young again. — usually + *that* • I *would* [=wish] that he had lived. = *Would that* he had lived.

how would I/we know — used to say that you do not know the answer to a question and are surprised that you were asked it • "Where did they go?" "How *would* I know?"

would-be /'wud'bi:/ *adj*, *always used before a noun* — used to describe someone who hopes to be a particular person or type of person • a *would-be* poet/writer [=a person who wants to be a poet/writer] • a *would-be* hero • tips for *would-be* mothers

wouldn't /'wudnt/ — used as a contraction of *would not* • I *wouldn't* call him if I were you. • I knocked on his door, but he *wouldn't* answer.

would've /'wudəv/ — used as a contraction of *would have* • I *would've* picked you up from the airport if I had known you were coming.

1 **wound** /'wu:nd/ *noun*, *pl* **wounds** [count]

1 : an injury that is caused when a knife, bullet, etc., cuts or breaks the skin • She suffered/received a knife/stab *wound* to/in her thigh. • a gunshot/bullet *wound* — see also FLESH WOUND

2 : a feeling of sadness, anger, etc., that is caused by something bad that has happened to you • Her mother's scorn left a *wound* that never healed. • Talking about her divorce opened up some old *wounds*. [=caused her to again have old feelings of anger, sadness, etc.] • emotional *wounds*

lick your wounds see **1** LICK

rub salt in/into someone's wounds see **1** RUB

time heals all wounds see **1** TIME

twist/turn the knife in the wound see **1** KNIFE

2 **wound** *verb* **wounds**; **wound-ed**; **wound-ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to injure (someone or something) by cutting or breaking the skin • Four people were seriously/badly *wounded* in the explosion. • The soldier's leg was *wounded* by a grenade.

2 : to cause (someone) to feel emotional pain • I was *wounded* [=hurt] by her remarks. • Losing the match *wounded* his pride/ego.

3 **wound** /'waund/ *past tense and past participle of* **2** WIND

wound-ed /'wu:ndəd/ *adj*

1 : injured by a weapon • badly *wounded* soldiers

2 : feeling emotional pain • *wounded* pride • a *wounded* ego • healing a *wounded* nation

the wounded : people who have been wounded • They carried *the wounded* off the battlefield. • help for *the walking wounded* [=people who are injured but still able to walk]

wound up *adj.*, not used before a noun [*more ~; most ~*] *informal* : nervous or excited • Don't get the kids all *wound up*.
• The crowd was *wound up* when the band came on stage.

wove *past tense of* ¹WEAVE

woven *past participle of* ¹WEAVE

¹**wow** /'waʊ/ *interj* — used to show that you are very surprised or pleased • *Wow!* This is delicious! • Oh, *wow!* I can't believe you came!

²**wow** *verb* **wows; wowed; wow-ing** [+ *obj*] *informal* : to impress or excite (someone) very much • Her performance *wowed* the critics.

wpm *abbr* words per minute

wrack /'ræk/ *verb* **wracks; wracked; wrack-ing** [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone or something) to suffer pain or damage : RACK — usually used as (*be*) *wracked* • a neighborhood *wracked* by poverty • a criminal who *is wracked* by/with guilt [=a criminal who feels very guilty]

wraith /'reiθ/ *noun, pl* **wraiths** [*count*] : the spirit of a dead person : GHOST

— **wraith-like** /'reiθ,laɪk/ *adj* • a *wraithlike* figure

¹**wran-gle** /'ræŋɡəl/ *verb* **wran-gles; wran-gled; wran-gling**

1 [*no obj*] : to argue angrily with someone • They were *wran-gling* over/about money.

2 [+ *obj*] *US, informal* : to get (something) by clever methods or by persuading someone • He managed to *wrangle* [=wan-gle] a couple of tickets to the concert.

3 [+ *obj*] *US* : to control and care for (horses, cattle, etc.) on a ranch • He made a living *wrangling* horses.

²**wrangle** *noun, pl* **wrangles** [*count*] : a dispute that lasts for a long time • They had a bitter *wrangle* over custody of their children. • a salary *wrangle*

wran-gler /'ræŋɡələ/ *noun, pl* **-glers** [*count*] *US* : a person who takes care of horses on a ranch : COWBOY

¹**wrap** /'ræp/ *verb* **wraps; wrapped; wrap-ping**

1 [+ *obj*] **a** : to cover (something) by winding or folding a piece of material around it • They were busy *wrapping* presents late on Christmas Eve. — often + *up, in, or with* • Could you *wrap* this box *up* for me? = Could you *wrap up* this box for me? • The nurse *wrapped* the baby *in* a blanket. • She *wrapped* her hair *in* a towel. • magazines *wrapped in* plastic • The handle of the bat was *wrapped with* tape. **b** : to wind or fold (something) around something else • Ribbons were *wrapped* around the dancers' arms. • She *wrapped* a scarf around her neck. • He *wrapped* tape around the bat's handle.

c : to put (your arms, legs, etc.) around someone or something • I *wrapped* my arms around her. • She *wrapped* her legs around a pillow. • He *wrapped* his hands around the trophy.

2 [*no obj*] : to go around something • The line of people went out the door and *wrapped around* the corner.

3 : to finish filming a movie or television show or one of its scenes [*no obj*] After the movie *wraps* [=after the filming of the movie is completed], we'll hold a party for the cast and crew. [+ *obj*] Let's *wrap* this scene (up).

wrap (someone) around your (little) finger *informal* : to have complete control over (someone) • She has him *wrapped around her little finger*. [=she controls him completely; he always does what she wants him to do]

wrap up [*phrasal verb*] ¹ **wrap (something) up or wrap up (something) or wrap up** : to finish or end (something) • Let's *wrap* this meeting *up*. • The teacher quickly *wrapped up* her lecture toward the end of class. • The meeting *wrapped up* [=ended] at four o'clock. — see also WRAP-UP

2 **wrapped up in** ✧ If you are *wrapped up in* something, you are fully involved or interested in it. • I was (completely) *wrapped up in* my work, so I didn't hear you come in.

wrap your mind around US, informal : to find a way to understand or accept (something) • I just couldn't *wrap my mind around* what had happened.

²**wrap** *noun, pl* **wraps**

1 [*noncount*] : material used for covering or wrapping something • holiday gift *wrap* — see also PLASTIC WRAP, SHRINK-WRAP

2 [*count*] : a piece of clothing that is wrapped around a person's shoulders, waist, etc.

3 [*count*] : a thin piece of bread that is rolled around a filling of meat, vegetables, etc. • a chicken/veggie *wrap*

4 [*count*] : a treatment for your skin that involves covering your entire body with something (such as wet cloth or seaweed) • I got a *body wrap* at the spa.

5 [*count*] : a bandage that you wear around a part of your body to treat or prevent an injury • a leg/elbow *wrap*

it's a wrap or that's a wrap — used to say that the filming of a movie or television show or one of its scenes is finished • *It's a wrap, folks. We can go home now.*

under wraps *informal* : known to only a few people : SECRET • The name of the movie is being *kept under wraps*.

wrap-around /'ræpə,raʊnd/ *adj.*, always used before a noun : going all or most of the way around something • *wrap-around* sunglasses • a *wraparound* porch • a *wraparound* cover illustration

wrap-per /'ræpə/ *noun, pl* **-pers** [*count*] : a thin piece of paper, plastic, etc., that covers or surrounds something to protect it • a candy bar *wrapper*

wrapping *noun, pl* **-pings** : a thin piece of paper, plastic, fabric, etc., that covers or surrounds something to protect it [*noncount*] She tore the *wrapping* off the present. [*count*] Some of the mummy's *wrappings* had been removed.

wrapping paper *noun* [*noncount*] : paper that is used to wrap gifts

wrap-up /'ræp,ʌp/ *noun, pl* **-ups** [*count*] *US* : a brief statement that gives the most important information about what has happened or been done : SUMMARY • a news *wrap-up* — often + *of* • Can you give me a *wrap-up of* the game? — see also *wrap up* at ¹WRAP

wrath /'ræθ, Brit 'rɒθ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal + old-fashioned* : extreme anger • the *wrath* of the gods — sometimes used figuratively • These buildings somehow survived the hurricane's *wrath*. **synonyms** see ¹ANGER

— **wrath-ful** /'ræθfəl, Brit 'rɒθfəl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] • *wrathful* deities

wreak /'ri:k/ *verb* **wreaks; wreaked; wreak-ing** [+ *obj*] : to cause (something very harmful or damaging) • Gangs have been *wreaking* mayhem in the city. — usually + *on* or *upon* • The hurricane *wreaked* terrible damage/destruction *on* coastal cities. • the devastation that alcoholism can *wreak upon* families • The virus *wreaked havoc on* my computer. [=the virus caused great damage to my computer] • He swore to *wreak vengeance/revenge on* them.

wreath /'ri:θ/ *noun, pl* **wreaths** /'ri:ðz, 'ri:θs/ [*count*]

1 **a** : an arrangement of leaves or flowers in the shape of a circle that is worn or placed as a sign of honor or victory • The President laid a *wreath* of flowers on the hero's grave. • The ancient Romans awarded laurel *wreaths* to winners of athletic contests. **b** : an arrangement of leaves, flowers, fruits, etc., in the shape of a circle that is used for decoration • Every December, I put a Christmas *wreath* on my front door.

2 *literary* : something that is shaped like a circle • a *wreath* of flame • a *wreath* of stars

wreath /'ri:ð/ *verb* **wreathes; wreathed; wreath-ing** [+ *obj*] *literary* : to surround or cover (something) • Mist *wreathed* the forest. • buildings *wreathed with* ivy — often + *in* • mountaintops *wreathed in* clouds — sometimes used figuratively • She was *wreathed in* glory. • His face was *wreathed in* smiles. [=he was very happy and was smiling a lot]

¹**wreck** /'rek/ *noun, pl* **wrecks** [*count*]

1 **a** : a vehicle, airplane, etc., that has been badly damaged or destroyed • Firefighters pulled him from the (car) *wreck*. **b** : a ruined or destroyed ship : SHIPWRECK • a sunken *wreck*

2 *US* : an accident in which a car, airplane, train, etc., is badly damaged or destroyed • This car has never been in a *wreck*. • a car/train/plane *wreck*

3 *informal* : a person who is very tired, ill, worried, or unhappy • The stress of her final exams made her a *wreck*. • Dad was a *nervous wreck* on the day I had my surgery.

4 *informal* : something that is not in good condition • Who would buy this *wreck* of a car? • The house is a *wreck*.

²**wreck** *verb* **wrecks; wrecked; wreck-ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to damage (something) so badly that it cannot be repaired • I *wrecked* my mother's car. • Many houses were *wrecked by* the hurricane. • a *wrecked* car

2 : to ruin or destroy (something) • The affair *wrecked* his marriage. • Even though the rumor was false, it *wrecked* [=ruined] her career. • Bad weather *wrecked* our vacation.

3 : to destroy (a ship) by crashing it into something — usual-



wreath

ly used as *(be) wrecked* • The ship was *wrecked* off the coast of Ireland.

wreck-age /ˈrɛkɪdʒ/ *noun* [noncount] : the broken parts of a vehicle, building, etc., that has been badly damaged or destroyed • Workers sifted through the *wreckage* of the building, searching for bodies. • They cleared the *wreckage* from the track.

wrecked *adj.*, *not used before a noun*, *slang* : very drunk • He came home totally *wrecked* last night.

wreck-er /ˈrɛkə/ *noun*, *pl* -ers [count]

1 *US* : a truck that takes away cars that are damaged or not working : TOW TRUCK

2 : someone or something that destroys something — used in combination • Lying about your education is a surefire career-*wrecker*. • a *home-wrecker* [=someone who has an affair with a married person and causes that person's marriage to fail]

wrecking ball *noun*, *pl* ~ balls [count] : a large, heavy ball that is used to knock down buildings • They saved the old factory from the *wrecking ball*. [=from being destroyed]

wren /ˈrɛn/ *noun*, *pl* wrens [count] : a small bird with brown feathers and a short tail that points upward — see color picture on page C9

¹wrench /ˈrɛntʃ/ *noun*, *pl* wrench-es

1 [count] *US* : a tool consisting of a handle with one end designed to hold, twist, or turn an object (such as a bolt or nut) • an adjustable *wrench* — called also (*Brit*) *spanner*; see picture at CARPENTRY; see also MONKEY WRENCH, SOCKET WRENCH

2 [count] : a violent twisting or pulling movement — usually singular • He snapped the tree's thick root with a *wrench* of the shovel.

3 [singular] chiefly *Brit* : something unpleasant that happens and that causes you to feel emotional pain • It was a *wrench* to say goodbye to all my friends.

throw a wrench into the works *US, informal* : to damage or change (something) in a way that ruins it or prevents it from working properly • We were going to renew our lease, but the landlord *threw a wrench into the works* [= (*Brit*) *threw a spanner into the works*] by increasing the rent.

²wrench *verb* wrenches; *wrenched*; *wrench-ing*

1 : to twist and pull with a sudden violent motion [no obj] I tried to *wrench* free from his grip. [+ obj] I tried to *wrench* myself free from his grip. — often used figuratively • I have trouble *wrenching* myself away from a good book. • an emotionally *wrenching* experience [=a very sad/painful experience] • a *heart-wrenching* story [=a very sad story]

2 [+ obj] : to injure (a part of your body) by making a violent twisting motion • He *wrenched* his back when he tried to lift a heavy box. • I *wrenched* [=sprained] my knee while playing football.

3 [+ obj] : to take (something) by using force • She *wrenched* the toy from his grasp. • The statue was *wrenched* from its pedestal. — often used figuratively • He *wrenched* control of the company (away) from his uncle.

wrest /ˈrɛst/ *verb* wrests; *wrest-ed*; *wrest-ing* [+ obj]

1 : to pull (something) away from someone by using violent twisting movements • She *wrested* the gun/knife/weapon (away) from her attacker.

2 : to take (something) from someone with much effort • He tried to *wrest* control of the company from his uncle. • The peasants *wrested* power (away) from the nobility.

wres-tle /ˈrɛsəl/ *verb* wres-tles; *wres-tled*; *wres-ting*

1 *a* : to fight (someone) by holding and pushing instead of by hitting, kicking, or punching [+ obj] She *wrestled* him to the ground. [=she held on to him and forced him to fall to the ground] [no obj] — usually + *with* • She *wrestled with* her attacker. *b* : to fight in the sport of wrestling [+ obj] They'll be *wrestling* each other for the championship. [no obj] They'll be *wrestling with/against* each other for the championship. • I *wrestled* in high school. [=I was a wrestler in high school]

2 : to struggle to move, deal with, or control something [no obj] — + *with* • She was *wrestling with* her luggage as she boarded the plane. • She *wrestled with* her conscience. • We *wrestled with* the issue/problem of how to cut costs without laying off workers. [+ obj] He finally *wrestled* his drug habit into submission. [=he finally overcame his drug habit]

wres-tler /ˈrɛslə/ *noun*, *pl* wres-tlers [count] : someone who competes in the sport of wrestling • a professional *wrestler*

wres-ting /ˈrɛslɪŋ/ *noun* [noncount] : a sport in which two

people try to throw, force, or pin each other to the ground • My favorite sport is *wrestling*. • He was on the *wrestling* team in high school. • a *wrestling* match

wretch /ˈrɛtʃ/ *noun*, *pl* wretch-es [count]

1 : a very unhappy or unlucky person • The poor *wretch* lost his job.

2 : a very bad or unpleasant person • He's an ungrateful *wretch*.

wretch-ed /ˈrɛtʃəd/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : very unhappy, ill, etc. • The slums were filled with poor, *wretched* children. • I don't know what's wrong with her, but she looks *wretched*.

2 : very bad or unpleasant • families living in *wretched* poverty • the *wretched* conditions of the refugee camp • How did we get into this *wretched* state of affairs? • *wretched* behavior

3 : very poor in quality or ability • What a *wretched* performance that was. • That movie was positively *wretched*.

— **wretch-ed-ly** *adv* • Her family was *wretchedly* poor. • It's outrageous that they treated you so *wretchedly*. — **wretch-ed-ness** *noun* [noncount]

wrig-gle /ˈrɪɡəl/ *verb* wrig-gles; *wrig-gled*; *wrig-gling* [no obj]

1 : to twist from side to side with small quick movements like a worm • The children *wriggled* and squirmed in their chairs. • She managed to *wriggle* free of her ropes. • They *wriggled* out of their wet clothes. • I had trouble getting the *wriggling* fish off my hook.

2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to move forward by twisting and turning • The snake *wriggled* across the path and went underneath a bush. • He was able to *wriggle* through the narrow opening.

wriggle out of [phrasal verb] *wriggle out of (something) informal* + *often disapproving* : to avoid doing (something that you do not want to do) in some clever or dishonest way • She tried to *wriggle out of* the contract. • Don't let him *wriggle out of* paying you for your work.

— **wrig-gly** /ˈrɪɡli/ *adj* **wrig-gli-er**; -est • a *wriggly* worm

wring /ˈrɪŋ/ *verb* wrings; *wrung* /ˈrʌŋ/; *wring-ing* /ˈrɪŋɪŋ/ [+ obj]

1 : to twist and squeeze (wet cloth, hair, etc.) to remove water • I *wrung* the towel and hung it up to dry. • I *wrung* my hair and wrapped it in a towel. • The rag was *wrung dry*. [=squeezed until almost all of the liquid was gone] — often + *out* • *wring* a sponge *out* • I *wrung out* my wet bathing suit. — sometimes used figuratively • She has been *wrung dry* by bills. [=she has no money left because she used all of it to pay bills]

2 : to get (something) out of someone or something with a lot of effort — + *out of* or *from* • They tried to *wring* [=squeeze] every last dollar of profit *out of* the failing company. • I finally managed to *wring* an apology *from* her.

3 : to twist and break (an animal's neck) in order to kill the animal • *wring* a chicken's neck

wringing wet : very wet • His clothes were *wringing wet* from the rain.

wring someone's neck informal — used to say that you are very angry with someone • He makes me so mad! I could *wring his neck*!

wring your hands : to twist and rub your hands together because you are nervous or upset • She was *wringing her hands* and pacing back and forth while waiting for her son to call. — see also HAND-WRINGING

wring-er /ˈrɪŋə/ *noun*, *pl* -ers [count] : a machine used for squeezing water out of clothes that have been washed

through the wringer informal : through a series of very difficult or unpleasant experiences • Those poor people have *really gone/been through the wringer* lately. • They were *put through the wringer* by the adoption agency.

¹wrin-kle /ˈrɪŋkəl/ *noun*, *pl* wrin-kles [count]

1 : a small line or fold that appears on your skin as you grow older — usually plural • They claim that this cream will reduce *wrinkles*.

2 : a small fold in the surface of clothing, paper, etc. • *wrinkle-free* pants — usually plural • I ran my hands over my skirt to smooth out the *wrinkles*.

3 *informal* *a* : a surprising or unexpected occurrence in a story or series of events • Here's the latest *wrinkle* in the story—we find out that the villain is actually the hero's father! *b* : a clever technique, trick, or idea • He has added some new *wrinkles* to his game.

iron out the wrinkles informal : to fix the small problems in

something • We still have to *iron out* a few more *wrinkles* in the schedule.

– **wrin·kly** /ˈrɪŋkli/ *adj* **wrin·kli·er**; **–est** [or *more* ~; *most* ~] • *wrinkly* [=wrinkled] skin

²wrinkle *verb* **wrinkles**; **wrin·kled**; **wrin·kling**

1 [*no obj*] : to develop wrinkles • Linen clothing *wrinkles* easily. • Moisture caused the wallpaper to *wrinkle* and peel. • His brow *wrinkled* as he thought about the question.

2 [*+ obj*] : to cause (something) to develop wrinkles • Try not to *wrinkle* your trousers. • She *wrinkled* (up) her nose in disgust.

wrinkled *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having many wrinkles • *wrinkled* [=wrinkly] skin • a *wrinkled* face • My shirt is *wrinkled*.

wrist /ˈrɪst/ *noun*, *pl* **wrists** [*count*] : the part of your body where your hand joins your arm • I hurt/sprained/broke my *wrist*. — see pictures at HAND, HUMAN

a *slap on the wrist* see ²SLAP

wrist·band /ˈrɪst,bænd/ *noun*, *pl* **-bands** [*count*] : a band of plastic, paper, cloth, etc., that you wear around your wrist

wrist·watch /ˈrɪst,wɑ:tʃ/ *noun*, *pl* **-watch·es** [*count*] : a watch that you wear on a strap or band around your wrist

¹writ /ˈrɪt/ *noun*, *pl* **writs** [*count*] *law* : a document from a court ordering someone to do something or not to do something • The judge issued a *writ* of habeas corpus. • He was served with a *writ*.

²writ *old-fashioned past participle of WRITE*

writ large **1** : shown in a clear way • His nervousness was *writ large* on his face. [=his nervousness could be seen clearly on his face] **2** : in a very large form : on a very large scale • National politics are just local politics *writ large*.

write /ˈraɪt/ *verb* **writes**; **wrote** /ˈroʊt/; **writ·ten** /ˈrɪtn/; **writ·ing**

1 : to form letters or numbers on a surface with a pen, pencil, etc. [*no obj*] children learning to read and *write* • I don't have anything to *write* with. Could I borrow a pen? [*+ obj*] Please *write* your name at the top of each sheet. • *Write* the number as a decimal instead of as a fraction. • She *wrote* "tag sale" on the sign in big letters. • The note was *written* in blue ink. • I mistakenly *wrote* her name as "Gene" instead of "Jean." • The verb "present" and the noun "present" are *writ·ten* [=spelled] alike but pronounced differently.

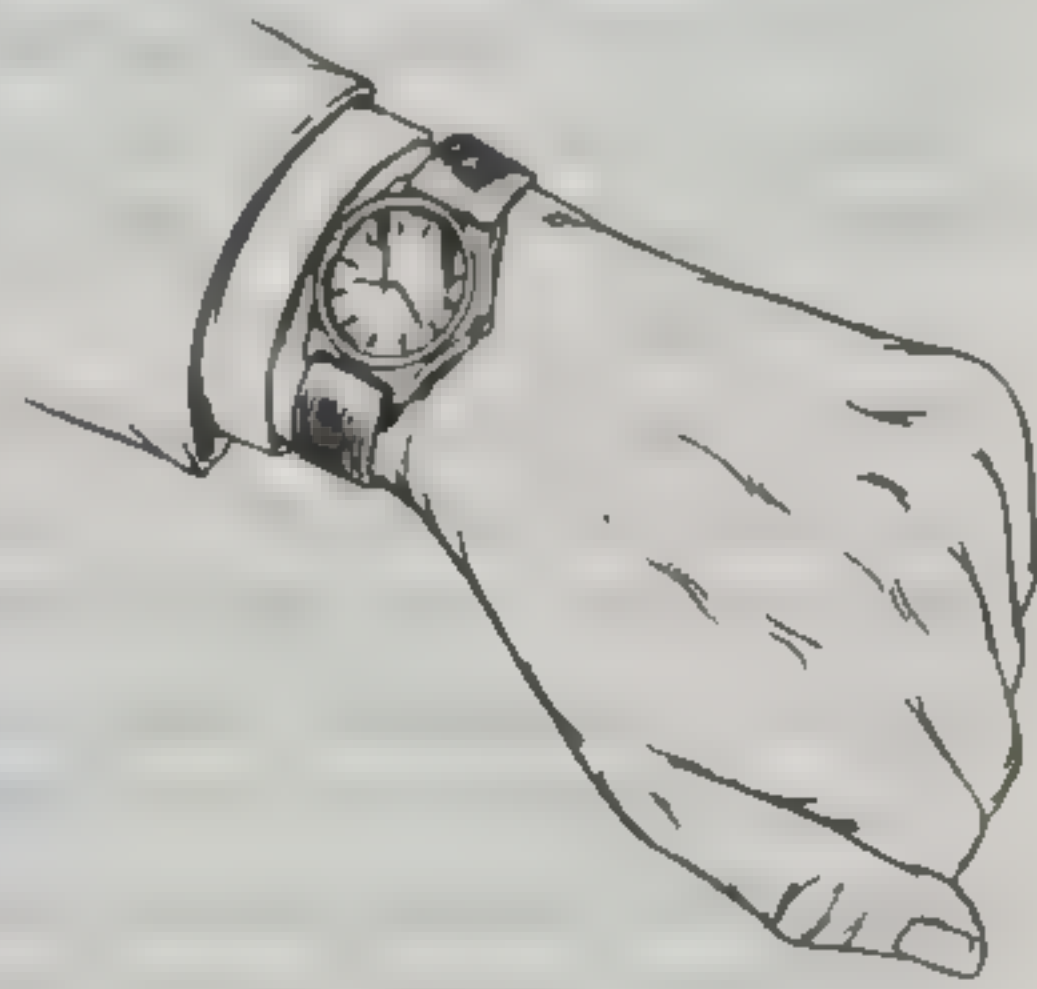
2 [*+ obj*] **a** : to create (a book, poem, story, etc.) by writing words on paper, on a computer, etc. • She *wrote* hundreds of poems during her lifetime. • She *wrote* an essay comparing two poems. • I'm *writing* an article for the school newspaper. • He has *written* several best sellers. **b** : to produce (a written document, agreement, rule, etc.) by writing • She *wrote* [=drew up] a contract for me to sign. • I'll *write* you a receipt for your purchase. • I *wrote* (her) a check for \$200. • I finally got around to *writing* [=drafting] a will. — often + *up* • She *wrote up* a contract for me to sign. • I *wrote up* a review of the art exhibit for the local newspaper. **c** : to create (a piece of music) • He has *written* five symphonies and six concertos. • a performer who *writes* her own songs **d** : to create (a computer program) • I *wrote* a program to keep track of my finances.

3 : to express or state (something) in a book, story, essay, letter, etc. [*+ obj*] Today's homework assignment is to *write* what you thought of the museum. • He *wrote*, "I love you and miss you." • The reporter *wrote* that the strike might last through the weekend. [*no obj*] I'm going to *write* about my cat in my essay.

4 : to use the writing system of a language [*no obj*] + *in* • I can read and *write in* Japanese, but I can't speak it very well. [*+ obj*] I want to learn how to *write* Chinese.

5 : to communicate with someone by sending a letter, e-mail, etc. [*no obj*] I wish you would *write* more often. [=I wish you would send me more letters, e-mails, etc.] — often + *to* • For more information, *write to* the Department of Parks. [*+ obj*] I *wrote* [=sent] a letter to him. = I *wrote* him a letter. = (US) I *wrote* him.

6 [*no obj*] : to do the work of writing books, news articles, stories, etc. : to be a writer • He *writes* for the *New York Times*. • I've been *writing* for 20 years.



wristwatch

7 [*+ obj*] *computers* : to transfer (information) in a computer to a disk or other device • The data was *written to/onto* a disk.

8 [*no obj*] *of a pen, pencil, etc.* : to put marks on paper or another surface • My pen won't *write* smoothly.

have (something) written all over it informal : to show a certain characteristic very clearly • That proposal *had* "failure" *written all over it*. [=it was obvious that the proposal was going to fail]

nothing to write home about informal : not very good or appealing : ORDINARY • The food at that restaurant is *nothing to write home about*.

write back [*phrasal verb*] **write back or write (someone) back** : to send someone a letter, e-mail, etc., in response to one that was sent to you • He *wrote back* (to me) as soon as he got my card. • I sent him a letter, but he never *wrote me back*.

write down [*phrasal verb*] **write (something) down or write down (something)** : to write (something) on a piece of paper • I want all of you to *write down* your ideas. • Please *write* your phone number *down* for me.

write in [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to send a letter to a newspaper, a company, the government, etc., to express an opinion or to ask a question • Dozens of people *wrote in* to the newspaper to complain about the controversial comic strip. • Please *write in* with your comments. **2** **write (something) in or write in (something)** : to write (something) on a form • She *wrote in* "Latina" under/beside "race or ethnicity." **3** **write (someone) in or write in (someone) US** : to vote for (someone who is not on the official list of candidates) by writing that person's name in a special place on the ballot • Her name wasn't on the ballot, but several hundred voters *wrote her in*. — see also WRITE-IN

write into [*phrasal verb*] **write (something) into (something)** : to add (something new) to a contract, law, etc. • Legislators *wrote* a clause *into* the law that exempts nonprofit agencies. • A bonus was *written into* the contract.

write off [*phrasal verb*] **1** **write (something) off or write off (something) a** : to say officially that (money that is owed to you) will not be paid or does not need to be paid • The government has agreed to *write off* the debt. • The bank has *written off* the loan. [=has officially said that the money for the loan is lost because the loan will not be repaid] **b** : to take away (an amount) from the total amount that is used to calculate taxes • You might be able to *write off* [=deduct] the cost of the computer on your taxes. **2** **write (someone or something) off or write off (someone or something)** : to consider (someone or something) to be lost, hopeless, unimportant, etc. • I had *written off* [=given up on] college because I couldn't afford to pay tuition. • I *wrote her off* as a friend. [=I decided that she was no longer my friend] • I wouldn't *write off* [=dismiss] the team just yet. The season still has a long way to go. **3** **write off for (something) chiefly Brit** : to make a request for (something) by sending a letter • She *wrote off for* [=sent away for] a free sample.

write out [*phrasal verb*] **1** **write (something) out or write out (something) a** : to put (something) in writing on a piece of paper • I asked her to *write out* the directions to her house. **b** : to write the required information on (a check, receipt, etc.) • I *wrote out* a check for \$200. • The sales clerk *wrote us out* an invoice. **2** **a** **write (someone) out of** : to change a document (such as a will) so that (someone) is not included • She *wrote me out of* her will. **b** **write (someone) out of (something) or write out (someone)** : to remove (a character) from a story by having the character die, disappear, etc. • They *wrote her character out of* the show at the end of the first season.

write up [*phrasal verb*] **1** **write (something) up or write up (something)** : to describe (something) in a detailed written account • A music critic *wrote up* the rock concert. — see also WRITE-UP **2** **write (someone) up or write up (someone) US** : to produce an official document that reports (someone) to an authority to be punished • The teacher *wrote up* the boy for throwing food at his classmates. — see also WRITE 2b (above)

write your own ticket informal ♦ If you can *write your own ticket*, you can choose to do whatever you want or to go wherever you want because you have excellent or special skills or abilities. • When he graduates, he'll be able to *write his own ticket*.

written in stone see ¹STONE

wrote the book on informal — used to say that someone is

an expert on a particular subject • *She wrote the book on long-distance swimming.*

write-in /ˈraɪt,ɪn/ *noun, pl -ins* [count] *US*

1 : a candidate in an election whose name is not printed on the ballot and whose name must be written on the ballot by voters • Since he couldn't secure his party's nomination, he was forced to run as a *write-in*. • a *write-in* candidate

2 : a vote for someone who is not on an election's official list of candidates • The election commission decided that *write-ins* would not be counted. — see also *write in* at **WRITE**

writ-er /ˈraɪtə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count]

1 : someone whose work is to write books, poems, stories, etc. • She is my favorite French *writer*. • He's a *writer* of horror stories. • a course on 19th-century *writers* • The magazine is looking for freelance *writers*.

2 : someone who has written something • The *writer* of the best essay will win a prize. • They identified the *writer* of the mysterious letter.

writer's block *noun* [noncount] : the problem of not being able to think of something to write about or not being able to finish writing a story, poem, etc.

writer's cramp *noun* [noncount] : pain in your hand or fingers that you get when you have been writing with a pen or pencil for a long time

write-up /ˈraɪt,ʌp/ *noun, pl -ups* [count] : a written description or review of something • There's a *write-up* of the restaurant in the paper. — see also *write up* at **WRITE**

writhe /ˈraɪð/ *verb* **writhes; writhed; writh-ing** [no obj] : to twist your body from side to side • She lay on the floor, *writhing* in pain. • a nest of *writhing* snakes

writ-ing /ˈraɪtɪŋ/ *noun, pl -ings*

1 [noncount] **a** : the activity or work of writing books, poems, stories, etc. • *Writing* usually isn't a lucrative career, but it has been very fulfilling for me. • She quit her job in order to concentrate on (her) *writing*. • He teaches creative *writing* at the university. • Few people nowadays care about the art of *letter writing*. **b** : the way that you use written words to express your ideas or opinions • The novel's plot is okay, but the *writing* is horrible. • I asked a friend to critique my *writing*. • Her essay was a wonderful piece of *writing*. • She has a unique *writing style*.

2 : books, poems, essays, letters, etc. [noncount] Much of the best Japanese *writing* has not been translated into English. [plural] the *writings* of Benjamin Franklin • a book of selected *writings* on moral philosophy

3 [noncount] : words, numbers, or symbols that have been written or printed on something • Can you read the *writing* on this bottle? • Japanese/Chinese/Arabic *writing* • hieroglyphics and other early *writing* systems

4 [noncount] **a** : the activity or skill of forming letters and numbers with a pen, pencil, etc. • She learned *writing* [=learned how to write] at a young age. • Having a broken finger made *writing* difficult. **b** : the particular way in which someone writes letters and numbers : **HANDWRITING** • Whose *writing* is this? • Her *writing* is illegible.

in writing : in the form of a letter or a document • The agreement needs to be *in writing* in order for it to be valid. • If they want to buy the house, make sure you get the offer *in writing*.

the writing is on the wall or see/read the writing on the wall see **1 WALL**

writing desk *noun, pl ~ desks* [count] : a desk with a flat surface for writing on

writing paper *noun* [noncount] : paper of good quality used for writing letters, notes, etc.

1 written *past participle* of **WRITE**

2 writ-ten /ˈrɪtən/ *adj* : using writing and not speech • We left *written* instructions for the babysitter. • *written* language • a *written* exam • The landlord must provide the tenant with *written* notice to vacate the property. • a *written* contract • The company issued a *written* statement.

1 wrong /ˈrɔːŋ/ *adj*

1 a : not agreeing with the facts or truth : **INCORRECT** • the *wrong* answer • Their conclusion was *wrong*. • I don't want you to get the *wrong* impression of him. • Don't take/interpret this the *wrong* way, but I think you should start exercising. • Are my actions sending the *wrong* message? • These pages are in the *wrong* order. • I don't understand how I got the answer *wrong*. [=I do not understand how I did not know the right answer] • I got four answers *wrong* on the test. • I think you have dialed the *wrong number*. [=an incorrect telephone number] — opposite **RIGHT** **b** *not used before a noun*

: speaking, acting, or judging in a way that does not agree with the facts or truth • You're *wrong*; the answer is six. • You like baseball, or am I *wrong*? • Am I *wrong* in thinking that she should never have gone? • I think her birthday is May 11th, but I could be *wrong*. • He thinks I can't win, but I'm going to prove him *wrong*. • *Correct me if I'm wrong*, but isn't tomorrow your birthday? — often + *about* • I was *wrong* [=mistaken] *about* the price. It actually costs \$30, not \$20. — often followed by *to* + *verb* • It is *wrong to assume* that you will be safe if you do that. — opposite **RIGHT**

2 : not suitable or appropriate for a particular purpose, situation, or person • These shoes are the *wrong size*. • If you're looking to me for advice on love, then you're asking the *wrong guy*. • That was the *wrong thing* to say/do. • He picked the *wrong time* to bring up his salary. • He was the *wrong person* for the job. • I made the *wrong decision*. • We got married for the *wrong reasons*. • It would be *wrong of me* to pressure you into saying yes. • There is nothing *wrong* with being quiet. • We headed off in the *wrong direction* and got lost. • The singer hit a *wrong note*. • She bought the *wrong kind* of rice. • He accidentally pressed the *wrong button*. • They decided that they were *wrong* for each other and broke up. • You are doing it the *wrong way*. • It's not his fault that he was injured. He was just *in the wrong place at the wrong time*. — opposite **RIGHT**

3 not used before a noun : not in a proper, good, or normal state or condition — used to describe a situation in which there is a problem • What's *wrong*? You look unhappy. • She knew something was *wrong* when her friend didn't show up for dinner. — often + *with* • There's something *wrong with* my computer. [=my computer is not working properly] • Nothing is *wrong with* your car. [=your car is working properly] • What's *wrong with* your shoulder? Did you hurt yourself?

4 : not morally or socially correct or acceptable • Stealing is *wrong*. • I swear I didn't do anything *wrong*! • It was *wrong of me* to accuse you, and I'm sorry. • It is *wrong to take* other people's things without their permission. • There's nothing *wrong with* standing up for yourself. — opposite **RIGHT**

5 US — used to refer to the side of something that is not meant to be on top, in front, or on the outside • The CD fell and landed *wrong side up/down*. • He had his socks on *wrong side out*. — opposite **RIGHT**

barking up the wrong tree see **1 BARK**

fall into the wrong hands see **1 FALL**

get off on the wrong foot see **1 FOOT**

get up on the wrong side of the bed see **1 BED**

on the wrong track see **1 TRACK**

put a foot wrong see **1 FOOT**

rub (someone) the wrong way see **1 RUB**

the wrong end of the stick see **1 STICK**

the wrong horse see **1 HORSE**

the wrong side of the tracks see **1 TRACK**

— **wrong-ly** *adv* • She was *wrongly* accused of theft. • They acted *wrongly*. • Many people, *rightly or wrongly*, believe that the economy will soon improve. — **wrong-ness** *noun* [noncount] • I'm not convinced of the *wrongness* of his actions.

2 wrong *adv*

1 : in a way that does not agree with the facts or truth : in a way that results in an error • I guessed *wrong*. [=incorrectly] • I entered the numbers *wrong*. • Her name was spelled *wrong* on the form. — opposite **RIGHT**

2 : in a way that is not suitable, proper, etc. • You are doing it *wrong*. [=incorrectly] • I can't get this to work; could you show me what I did *wrong*? — opposite **RIGHT**

get (someone or something) wrong : to fail to understand (someone or something) correctly • She *got* the instructions *wrong*. • *Don't get me wrong*—I like his parents. They're just a little too strict. • You've *got it all wrong*! [=you have misunderstood the situation completely]

go wrong **1** : to happen or proceed in a way that causes a bad result • We have to figure out what *went wrong* with the experiment. • Everything is *going wrong* for me today. • When she didn't come back, we feared that something had *gone horribly wrong*. [=that something very bad had happened] • What could possibly *go wrong*? **2** : to make a mistake • I followed the instructions to the letter and the computer still doesn't work. Where did I *go wrong*? • "I don't know what to order." "You *can't go wrong with* their clam chowder." [=their clam chowder is always a good choice]

3 wrong *noun, pl wrongs*

1 [noncount] : behavior that is not morally good or correct • People who **do wrong** [=do bad things] should be punished. • He's old enough to know the difference between right and wrong. = He's old enough to know **right from wrong**. • He is regarded as a hero who can **do no wrong**. [=who never does anything bad] — opposite **RIGHT**

2 [count] : a harmful, unfair, or illegal act — usually plural • She is seeking compensation for the **wrongs** that she suffered as an employee at that company. • No one has the power to right all **wrongs**. • We discussed the **rights and wrongs** of genetic cloning. — opposite **RIGHT**

do (someone) wrong informal + old-fashioned : to treat (someone) badly or unfairly • Her ex-boyfriend **did her wrong**.

in the wrong : in the position or situation of being wrong • We had an argument and each of us thinks that the other was **in the wrong**.

two wrongs don't make a right — used to say that if someone hurts you, you should not hurt that person in return

4 wrong verb **wrongs; wronged; wrong-ing** [+ obj] : to treat (someone) badly or unfairly • We should forgive those who have **wronged** us. • As the **wronged** party, you have the right to sue for damages.

wrong-do-er /'rɔ:ŋ,du:wə/ noun, pl **-ers** [count] : a person who does something that is morally or legally wrong

wrong-do-ing /'rɔ:ŋ,du:wɪŋ/ noun, pl **-ings** : behavior that is morally or legally wrong [noncount] He denied any **wrongdoing**. • There is no evidence of **wrongdoing** on her part. [=no evidence that she did anything wrong] [count] The corporation's **wrongdoings** must be exposed.

wrong-ful /'rɔ:ŋfəl/ adj : not legal, fair, or moral • **wrongful** conduct • He is suing his former employer for **wrongful** termination.

— **wrong-ful-ly** adv • a **wrongfully** convicted inmate
— **wrong-ful-ness** noun [noncount] • She did not understand the **wrongfulness** of her actions.

wrongful death noun, pl ~ **deaths** [count] law : a death caused by someone's mistake or by someone's improper act • She filed a **wrongful death** suit against the hospital, alleging that its negligence led to her daughter's death.

wrong-head-ed /'rɔ:ŋ'hɛdəd/ adj [more ~; most ~] : having or showing opinions or ideas that are wrong • **wrong-headed** people • a **wrongheaded** approach to dealing with the problem

wrote past tense of **WRITE**

wrought /'rɔ:t/ adj, formal + old-fashioned : carefully formed or worked into shape • carefully **wrought** essays • finely **wrought** woodwork

wrought up informal + old-fashioned : very excited or upset • I got **wrought up** [=worked up] over nothing.

wrought iron noun [noncount] : a kind of iron that is often used to make decorative fences, furniture, etc. • an antique **wrought iron** fence • a chair made of **wrought iron**

wrung past tense of **WRING**

wry /'raɪ/ adj **wry-er; -est** [or more ~; most ~]

1 : humorous in a clever and often ironic way • His books are noted for their **wry** humor.

2 : showing both amusement and a feeling of being tired, annoyed, etc. • When I asked her how she felt after winning the race, she gave me a **wry smile/grin** and said, "Pretty tired."

— **wry-ly** adv • She smiled **wryly**. — **wry-ness** noun [noncount]

wt. abbr weight

WTO abbr World Trade Organization

wun-der-kind /'wʊndə,kɪnt/ noun, pl **-kinds** also **-kind-er** /-,kɪndə/ [count] : someone who achieves success or shows great talent at a young age — usually singular • a musical **wunderkind**

wuss /'wʊs/ also **wus-sy** /'wʊsɪ/ noun, pl **wuss-es** also **wus-sies** [count] slang : a weak or cowardly person • Don't be such a **wuss**.

WV or **W VA** abbr West Virginia

WW abbr World War

www abbr World Wide Web

WY or **Wyo.** abbr Wyoming

WYS-I-WYG /'wɪzi,wɪg/ noun [noncount] computers : a display on a computer that shows the exact appearance of a printed document ♦ **WYSIWYG** stands for "what you see is what you get."

X

1 x or **X** /'ɛks/ noun, pl **x's** or **xs** or **X's** or **Xs** /'ɛksəz/

1 : the 24th letter of the English alphabet [count] a word that starts with an **x** [noncount] a word that starts with **x**

2 [count] : the Roman numeral that means 10 • **XX** [=20]

3 [noncount] mathematics **a** — used to represent an unknown quantity • What is the value of **x** in the equation $x - 4 = 3$? **b** — used as a symbol for multiplication • $2 \times 3 = 6$ [=2 times 3 equals 6; 2 multiplied by 3 is 6]

4 [noncount] — used as a symbol between the numbers of a measurement • The room is 10' **x** 12'. [=10 feet by 12 feet; two of the room's walls are 10 feet long and two walls are 12 feet long]

5 [noncount] : an unknown thing, person, or quantity • Mr. and Mrs. **X** • **x** number of students/people

6 [noncount] — used in the phrase **x, y, and z** to refer to the first thing in a group of three unnamed things • I hate being told that losing weight is as easy as doing **x, y, and z**.

7 [count] — used as a mark at the end of a letter, an e-mail, etc., to represent a kiss • Love, Pat **XXX**

8 [count] — used like a signature by a person who cannot write

9 [count] — used on a map or picture to show where someone or something is • Look at this map. **X** shows where we are now. • The location of the treasure was marked with an **x**. • **X** marks the spot.

10 [count] — used as a mark to show who or what you are voting for or choosing

2 x verb **x-es** also **x's** or **xes** /'ɛksəz/; **x-ed** also **x'd** or **xed** /'ɛkst/; **x-ing** or **x'ing** /'ɛksɪŋ/

x out [phrasal verb] **x (something) out** or **x out (something)** : to draw an **x** or a series of **x's** through (something) to show that it is wrong or not wanted • **x out** a mistake • One

line of the text had been **x-ed out**. [=crossed out]

X /'ɛks/ — used in the past as a special mark to indicate that no one under the age of 17 in the U.S. or 18 in the U.K. was allowed to see a particular movie in a movie theater • The movie was rated **X**. — compare **G**, **NC-17**, **PG**, **PG-13**, **R**; see also **X-RATED**

X chromosome noun, pl ~ **-somes** [count] : a type of chromosome that is found in pairs in the cells of female mammals and is found with the **Y chromosome** in the cells of male mammals — compare **Y CHROMOSOME**

xe-non /'zi:nən/ noun [noncount] : a chemical element that is a colorless gas and that is used especially in electric lights

xe-no-pho-bia /,zenə'foubɪə, 'zi:nə'foubɪə/ noun [noncount] : fear or hatred of strangers or foreigners

— **xe-no-phobe** /'zenə'foub, 'zi:nə'foub/ noun, pl **-phobes** [count] — **xe-no-pho-bic** /,zenə'foubɪk, 'zi:nə'foubɪk/ adj [more ~; most ~]

Xe-rox /'ziə,ɑ:ks/ trademark — used for a machine that makes paper copies of printed pages, pictures, etc.

xe-rox /'ziə,ɑ:ks/ verb **-rox-es; -roxed; -rox-ing** : to copy (something, such as a document) by using a special machine (called a copier) [+ obj] I'll **xerox** these forms for you. [no obj] I'll be **xeroxing** in the library.

xl or **XL** abbr extra large — usually used for a clothing size • The shirt comes in **S**, **M**, **L**, and **XL**.

Xmas /'krɪsməs, 'ɛksməs/ noun, pl **Xmas-es** [count, noncount] informal : **CHRISTMAS** — used especially on signs and in advertisements; often used before another noun • The sign read "**Xmas** decorations on sale."

XML /,ɛks,ɛm'ɛl/ noun [noncount] : a computer language that is used to clearly mark and organize the different parts



of a document so that it can be read on different computer systems

X-rated /'eks'reitəd/ *adj.* *of a movie* : having a rating of X : not suitable to be seen by people under age 17 in the U.S. and under 18 in the U.K. because of violence, offensive language, or sexual activity • an *X-rated* movie — often used figuratively • an *X-rated* [=pornographic] Web site • *X-rated* language [=obscene or offensive language]

X-ray /'eks,rei/ *noun, pl -rays*

1 *X-rays* [plural] *technical* : powerful invisible rays that can pass through various objects and that make it possible to see inside things (such as the human body)

2 *also x-ray* [count] : an image that is created by using X-rays and that is usually used for medical purposes • The doctor will review the *X-rays* and call you with the results.

3 *also x-ray* [count] : a medical examination that involves using X-rays • After the accident, I went to the hospital for an *X-ray*.

— **X-ray** *adj.* *always used before a noun* • *X-ray* radiation [=radiation from X-rays] • *X-ray* machines [=machines that use X-rays]

x-ray or **X-ray** /'eks,rei/ *verb -rays; -rayed; -ray-ing* [+ *obj*] : to examine and make images of (things, such as the bones and organs inside the body) by using X-rays • I had my foot/wrist/chest *x-rayed*. • Your luggage will be *x-rayed* at the airport.

xy-lo-phone /'zailə,foun/ *noun, pl -phones* [count] : a musical instrument that has a set of wooden bars of different lengths that are hit with hammers — see picture at PERCUSSION

Y

y or **Y** /'waɪ/ *noun, pl y's or ys or Y's or Ys* /'waɪz/

1 : the 25th letter of the English alphabet [count] a word that starts with a *y* [noncount] a word that starts with *y*

2 [noncount] *mathematics* — used to represent especially a second unknown quantity • If $x + y = 5$ and $x - y = 3$, what are the values of x and y ?

3 [noncount] — used in the phrase *x, y, and z* to refer to the second thing in a group of three unnamed things • People keep giving me advice about it, saying I should do *x, y, and z*.

4 [count] : something that is shaped like a *Y* • Turn left when you come to the *Y*. [=when the road/path splits like the top half of a *Y*]

5 *the Y US*, *informal* : the YMCA or the YWCA • I'm going to the *Y* after work tonight.

¹-**y** *also -ey* /i/ *adj suffix*

1 **a** : full or having a lot of something • a muddy river [=a river with a lot of mud in it] • dirty hands [=hands with a lot of dirt on them] **b** : having the qualities of something • gooey [=wet and sticky like goo] : made of or seeming to be made of something • waxy **c** : resembling something • icy [=like ice; very cold] • wintry temperatures [=temperatures that are cold like winter temperatures] • a homey atmosphere **d** : very interested in something • outdoorsy [=enthusiastic about activities done outside]

2 **a** : tending to do something • chatty [=tending to chat] : wanting or needing to do something • sleepy **b** : causing or performing a specified action • a drowsy afternoon [=an afternoon that makes you feel ready to drowse/sleep] • curly hair [=hair that curls]

²-**y** /i/ *noun suffix* : an act of doing something • inquiry [=an act of inquiring]

³-**y** *see -IE*

YA *abbr* young adult

yacht /'jɑ:t/ *noun, pl yachts* [count] : a large boat that is used for racing or pleasure • a sailing *yacht* — see picture at BOAT

yacht-ing /'jɑ:tɪŋ/ *noun* [noncount] : the activity or sport of sailing in a yacht • a *yachting* champion • We went *yachting* over the weekend.

yachts-man /'jɑ:tsmən/ *noun, pl -men* /-mən/ [count] : a man who owns or sails a yacht

yachts-wom-an /'jɑ:ts,wumən/ *noun, pl -wom-en* /-,wimən/ [count] : a woman who owns or sails a yacht

ya-da ya-da or **yad-da yad-da** /'jɑ:də'jɑ:də/ or **ya-da ya-da ya-da** or **yad-da yad-da yad-da** /'jɑ:də'jɑ:də- 'jɑ:də/ *noun* [noncount] *US, informal* : talk or language that is boring or that offers little information • They had to listen to the usual *yada yada* about bike safety. — often used as an interjection in place of words that are very dull or not worth saying • It was your typical day: I went to work, came home, had dinner, *yada yada yada*.

¹**ya-hoo** /jɑ'hu:/ *interj* — used to express excitement or joy • *Yahoo!* We won!

²**ya-hoo** /'jer,hu:/, 'jɑ:,hu:/ *noun, pl -hoos* [count] *informal* : a person who is very rude, loud, or stupid • Some *yahoo* cut

me off in traffic. • A bunch of *yahoos* were making noise outside.

Yah-weh /'jɑ:,wei/ *noun* [singular] — used as the name of God by the ancient Hebrews and in the Old Testament of the Bible

¹**yak** /'jæk/ *noun, pl yaks* *also yak* [count] : a large wild animal that has long hair and curved horns and that lives in central Asia



yak

²**yak** *verb yaks; yakked; yakking* [no *obj*] *informal* : to talk in a loud way often for a long time • Half the people on the train were *yakking* [=yammering] (away) on their cell phones.

y'all /'jɑ:l/ *US, informal* — used as a contraction of *you all* • How are *y'all* doing tonight? ♦ Like *you-all*, *y'all* is used mainly in speech in the Southern U.S. to address two or more people.

yam /'jæm/ *noun, pl yams* [count]

1 : a long, thick root of a tropical plant that has rough brown skin and usually white or yellow flesh and that is eaten as a vegetable

2 *US* : SWEET POTATO

yam-mer /'jæmə/ *verb -mers; -mered; -mer-ing* [no *obj*] *informal* : to talk in an annoying way usually for a long time • They're *yammering* (on) about work again.

yang /'jɑ:ŋ, 'jæn/ *noun* [noncount] *in Chinese philosophy* : one of the two forces that together form everything that exists : the male principle of the universe that is considered light and active and is associated with heaven — compare YIN

the yin and yang *see YIN*

¹**yank** /'jæŋk/ *noun, pl yanks* [count] : a strong, quick pull • She gave the rope a *yank*. [=she yanked the rope]

²**yank** *verb yanks; yanked; yank-ing*

1 : to suddenly pull (something) in a quick, forceful way [+ *obj*] He *yanked* the door shut. [no *obj*] She *yanked* on the dog's leash.

2 [+ *obj*] : to quickly or suddenly remove (something or someone) • The show was *yanked* off the air. [=the show was suddenly canceled; it was suddenly decided that the show would no longer be broadcast]

yank (someone's) *chain* *see* ¹CHAIN

Yank /'jæŋk/ *noun, pl Yanks* [count] *informal* : a person from the U.S. : YANKEE

Yan-kee /'jæŋki/ *noun, pl -kees* [count]

1 : a person born or living in the U.S. — often used to show disapproval or as an insult • The protesters held signs that said "*Yankee* Go Home."

2 *US* **a** : a person born or living in the northern U.S. • a Southern girl who married a *Yankee* — sometimes used by people in the southern U.S. to show disapproval or as an insult **b** : a person from New England • a New England *Yan-*

kee • *Yankee* frugality [=the frugality that is traditionally associated with people from New England]

3 : a soldier who fought on the side of the northern states during the American Civil War

¹yap /'jæp/ *verb* **yaps**; **yapped**; **yap-ping** [*no obj*]

1 of a dog : to bark in high, quick sounds • The dog was *yapping* all night.

2 *informal* : to talk in a loud and annoying way • Kids were *yapping* in the back of the room. • She seems to spend all her time *yapping* on the phone.

²yap *noun, pl yaps* [*count*]

1 : a dog's high, quick bark • I heard *yaps* coming from the yard.

2 *US slang* : MOUTH • I told him to shut his *yap*. [=trap]

¹yard /'jɑ:d/ *noun, pl yards* [*count*]

1 *US* : an outdoor area that is next to a house and is usually covered by grass • Children were playing out in the *yard*. [= (*Brit*) garden] • a tree in the back/front *yard*

2 : the land around a building • the prison *yard* [=grounds] — see also SCHOOLYARD

3 : an area with buildings and equipment that is used for a particular activity • a rail *yard* [=a place where railroad cars are kept and repaired] — see also BARNYARD, FARMYARD, JUNKYARD, LUMBERYARD, SCRAPYARD, SHIPYARD, STOCKYARD

— compare ²YARD; see also SCOTLAND YARD

²yard *noun, pl yards* [*count*] : a unit of measurement equal to 3 feet (0.9144 meters) or 36 inches • We have 10 *yards* of rope. • The football player ran for 35 *yards*. • 40 square *yards* of carpeting • the 100-*yard* dash • a cubic *yard* — abbr. *yd*.

the whole nine yards chiefly *US, informal* : EVERYTHING • I served a huge Thanksgiving dinner: turkey, mashed potatoes, pumpkin pie—*the whole nine yards*. [=all the foods that are traditionally served for Thanksgiving dinner] • If we're going to replace the cabinets, we might as well *go the whole nine yards* [=do everything that there is to do] and remodel the entire kitchen.

— compare ¹YARD

yard-age /'jɑ:dɪdʒ/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 **a** : an amount of something measured in yards • fabric *yardage* [=yards of fabric] **b** : the size of something measured in yards • calculating the square *yardage* of the room [=calculating the size of the room in square yards]

2 *American football* : the number of yards a player or team moves the ball down the field • He led the league in rushing/passing *yardage*. • The team lost *yardage* on that play.

yard-er /'jɑ:də/ *noun, pl -ers* [*count*] : something that is a specified number of yards long — used in combination • The field goal was a 40-*yarder*. [=was 40 yards long]

yard line *noun, pl ~ lines* [*count*] *American football* : any one of the lines on a football field that are one yard apart and that show the distance to the nearest goal line — often used in combination to refer to a specific yard line • He was tackled on the 20-*yard line*.

yard sale *noun, pl ~ sales* [*count*] *US* : GARAGE SALE

yard-stick /'jɑ:dstɪk/ *noun, pl -sticks* [*count*]

1 : a long, flat tool that is one yard long and is used to measure things

2 : a rule or specific idea about what is acceptable or desirable that is used to judge or measure something • Some feel that test scores aren't an adequate *yardstick* for judging a student's ability. • Ratings are the *yardstick* by which TV shows are evaluated by networks.

yar-mul-ke /'jɑ:məkə, 'jɑ:məlkə/ *noun, pl -kes* [*count*] : a small round cap that is worn by some Jewish men — called also *skullcap*

yarn /'jɑ:n/ *noun, pl yarns*

1 : a long, thin piece of cotton, wool, etc., that is thicker than thread and that is used for knitting and weaving [*non-count*] skeins of *yarn* • The sheep's wool will be spun into *yarn*. [*count*] colorful *yarns* — see picture at SEWING

2 [*count*] : an exciting or interesting story; especially : a story that is so surprising or unusual that it is difficult to believe • *yarns* about ghosts and goblins • a storyteller who *spins yarns* that will keep any audience riveted

yaw /'jɑ:/ *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* : movement of an airplane, ship, etc., to the left or right; especially : unwanted left or right movement • Sensors measure the pitch and *yaw* of the plane. • The airplane's rudder is used to control *yaw*.

— **yaw** *verb* **yaws**; **yawed**; **yaw-ing** [*no obj*] • The plane *yawed* to the left.

¹yawn /'jɑ:n/ *verb* **yawns**; **yawned**; **yawn-ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to open your mouth wide while taking in breath usually because you are tired or bored • Students were *yawning* in class.

2 of an opening, hole, etc. : to be deep, large, etc. • A deep chasm *yawned* [=gaped] below us.

²yawn *noun, pl yawns* [*count*]

1 : an act of opening your mouth wide while taking in breath : an act of yawning • I tried to stifle a *yawn*.

2 *informal* : something that is very boring • The movie was a great big *yawn*. [=was very boring]

yawn-er /'jɑ:nə/ *noun, pl -ers* [*count*] *US*

1 : a person who yawns

2 *informal* : something that is very boring • The show was a real *yawner*.

yawn-ing /'jɑ:nɪŋ/ *adj* : very large or wide open • There was a *yawning* [=gaping] hole in the wall. • There is a *yawning* gap between rich and poor. [=the difference between how much money rich people have and poor people have is very great]

yay /'jeɪ/ *interj* — used to express joy, approval, or excitement • Yay! We won! • You did it! Yay! Good for you!

Y chromosome *noun, pl ~ -somes* [*count*] *biology* : a chromosome that is found with the X chromosome in the cells of male mammals and that is absent from the cells of female mammals — compare X CHROMOSOME

yd. *abbr* yard

¹ye /'ji:/ *pronoun, old-fashioned + literary* : YOU — used especially when speaking to more than one person • “Abandon hope, all *ye* [=all of you] who enter here.” —Dante, *The Divine Comedy* (translation) • “... Seek and *ye* shall find...” —Luke 11:9 KJV

²ye /'ji:/ *definite article, old-fashioned + literary* : THE — used especially in the names of stores, businesses, etc., to make them seem old-fashioned • Ye Olde Tavern

yea /'jeɪ/ *noun, pl yeas* [*count*] *formal* : a yes vote • We counted seven *yeas* [=ayes] and two *nays*. — compare ²AYE, ²NAY

yeah /'jeə/ *adv, informal*

1 : YES • “Are you coming with us?” “*Yeah*, I'm coming.” • *Yeah*, I agree with you. • “That looks good.” “*Yeah*, I think so too.”

2 — used in speech to show that you are surprised by or disagree with what someone has said • “I'm from Maine.” “*Oh yeah?* [=really?] I didn't know that.” • “I'm a better runner than you.” “*Oh, yeah?* You think you can beat me?” • “You're a lousy golfer.” “*Oh yeah?* I'd like to see you do better.”

3 — used in speech to express disbelief • “I met a famous actor yesterday.” “*Yeah, right/sure.*” [=I do not believe you]

year /'jiə/ *noun, pl years* [*count*]

1 : a unit of time that is equal to 12 months or 365 or sometimes 366 days • I haven't seen her in a *year*. • He quit smoking six *years* ago. • The job pays \$45,000 a/per *year*. • She renews her lease every *year*. • We see them once or twice a *year*. • It feels like we've been standing in line for a *year*. • That team hasn't won in *years*. • It's been *years* since I've been on an airplane. • The camp has changed a lot *over the years*. [=during several/some/many years] • The tree grows taller *year by year*. = The tree grows taller *each year*. = The tree grows taller *as the years go by*. • The park is open *all year round*. = The park is open the entire *year*. — see also CALENDAR YEAR, DONKEY'S YEARS, FISCAL YEAR, GAP YEAR, LEAP YEAR

2 : the regular period of 12 months that begins in January and ends in December • The work should be done by the end of the *year*. • She was born in the *year* 1967. • The volcano erupted in the *year* 44 B.C. • In what *year* was the car made? • They got married last *year*. [=during the year before this one] • He will retire next *year*. [=during the year after this one] • the movie/teacher/rookie *of the year* [=the best movie/teacher/rookie in a specific year]

3 — used to refer to the age of a person • She is 14 *years* old. • the teenage *years* [=the ages 13 through 19] • a six-*year-old* boy • He is *getting on in years*. [=he is getting old] • She looks *young/old for her years*. [=she looks younger/older than she is]

4 : a period of time when a particular event, process, activity, etc., happens or is done • The school *year* runs from September to June. [=the school operates from September to June] • The fiscal *year* begins in October and ends in September. • This will be a great *year* [=harvest season] for peaches. • The pitcher is having his best *year* [=season] ever. • She took geometry (during) her sophomore *year*. • first- and second-*year* students

glory years see ¹GLORY

in the year of our Lord *formal* — used before a year to say that it is after the birth of Jesus Christ • The couple married on this day *in the year of our Lord* 2005.

never/not in a thousand/million/billion years *informal* — used as a strong way of saying that something is extremely unlikely or impossible • *Never in a million years* did I think she would quit her job. [=I never thought that she would quit her job] • He will never change his mind. *Not in a million years.*

put years on : to cause (someone) to look or feel older • That job has really *put some years on* him.

since (the) year one (US) or *Brit since the year dot* *informal* : for a very long time : since a time in the distant past • That monument has been there *since the year one.*

take years off : to cause someone to look or feel younger • Not only has the diet improved how she feels, but it's also *taken years off* (her appearance).

vintage year see ¹VINTAGE

year-book /'jiə,bʊk/ *noun, pl -books* [count]

1 : a book about a particular topic (such as sports or news) that is published each year • an auto industry *yearbook*

2 US : a book that is published by a school each year and that shows the activities at the school during that year • a high school *yearbook* • her *yearbook* photo • They signed each other's *yearbooks*.

year-end /'jiə'end/ *adj, always used before a noun* : made or done at the end of the year • The store had a *year-end* sale. • We finished our *year-end* reports.

year-ling /'jiə'lɪŋ/ *noun, pl -lings* [count] : an animal (such as a horse) that is between one and two years old
— **yearling** *adj* • *yearling* calves

year-long /'jiə'lɔ:ŋ/ *adj, always used before a noun* : lasting one year • She went on a *yearlong* sabbatical.

year-ly /'jiəli/ *adj*

1 : happening, done, or made once each year • He went for his *yearly* [=annual] checkup. • She renews her lease on a *yearly* basis.

2 : of or relating to one year • your *yearly* income [=the income you receive each year] • the area's *yearly* rainfall

— **yearly** *adv* • You should get your car inspected *yearly*. [=once each year] • The report is published *twice yearly*. [=twice each year]

yearn /'jæn/ *verb* **yearns; yearned; yearn-ing** [no obj] : to feel a strong desire or wish for something or to do something • captives *yearning* for freedom = captives *yearning* to be free • People are *yearning* for a return to normalcy. = People are *yearning* to return to normalcy.

— **yearn-ing** /'jæniŋ/ *noun, pl -ings* [count] • She had a *yearning* to travel. [=she yearned to travel; she had a strong desire to travel] • our *yearnings* for peace

synonyms YEARN, LONG, AND PINE mean to want something very much. YEARN suggests a strong desire for something combined with a feeling of sadness. • They *yearn* for the day when they can be together again. LONG is used like YEARN and may also suggest a desire for something that you can only get or achieve by working hard or being lucky. • She *longs* to be a famous artist. PINE suggests that you grow weak while continuing to want something that you may never have. • He *pines* for his homeland.

year-round /'jiə'raʊnd/ *adj, always used before a noun* : active, present, or done throughout the year • a *year-round* resort • the island's *year-round* residents • While baseball and football are seasonal, bowling is a *year-round* sport.

— **year-round** *adv* • The park is open *year-round*. [=all year; throughout the year]

yeast /'ji:st/ *noun* [noncount] : a type of fungus that is used in making alcoholic drinks (such as beer and wine) and in baking to help make dough rise

yeast infection *noun, pl ~ -tions* [count] US, *medical* : a disease that affects the vagina and that is caused by a fungus — called also (*chiefly* Brit) *thrush*

yeasty /'ji:sti/ *adj* **yeast-i-er; -est** [or more ~; most ~] : full of or resembling yeast • *yeasty* bread dough • The kitchen had a *yeasty* odor.

yech or **yecch** /'jæk, 'jek/ *interj, US* — used to express disgust • *Yech!* What a mess!

¹**yell** /'jel/ *verb* **yells; yelled; yell-ing**

1 : to say (something) very loudly especially because you are angry, surprised, or are trying to get someone's attention [no obj] We saw people *yelling* for help. • She *yelled* [=shout-

ed] to her friend across the park. — often + *at* • Stop *yelling* at me! [+ obj] I heard someone *yelling* my name. • kids *yelling* [=shouting] insults at each other • “Look out!” she *yelled*. — often + *out* • He *yelled out* my name when he saw me.

2 [no obj] : to make a sudden, loud cry • The crowd was *yelling* wildly. — often + *out* • She *yelled out* [=cried out] in pain. **yell your head off** see ¹HEAD

— **yell-er** *noun, pl -ers* [count]

²**yell** *noun, pl yells* [count]

1 : a sudden, loud cry — often + *of* • We heard the *yells* [=shouts] of children coming from the park. • a *yell* of joy/triumph • She let out a *yell*. • (*informal*) Give me a *yell* if you need anything. [=call me if you need anything; let me know if you need anything]

2 US : a usually rhythmic shout or cheer used especially in schools or colleges to show support for sports teams • the old school *yell*

¹**yel-low** /'jeləʊ/ *adj* **yel-low-er; -est** [or more ~; most ~]

1 : having the color of the sun or of ripe lemons • a *yellow* car • The raincoat was *yellow*.

2 *informal* : afraid in a way that makes you unable to do what is right or expected : COWARDLY • He was too *yellow* to stand up and fight.

3 *always used before a noun* : containing news that is meant to shock people and that is not true or is only partly true • *yellow journalism*

²**yellow** *noun, pl -lows* : the color of the sun or of ripe lemons. [noncount] The bridesmaids were dressed in *yellow*. • shades of *yellow* [count] a room decorated in *yellows* and greens — see color picture on page C1

³**yellow** *verb -lows; -lowed; -low-ing* : to become yellow or to cause (something) to become yellow [no obj] The paper had *yellowed* with age. [+ obj] The leaves were *yellowed* by disease.

yellow-bellied *adj* [more ~; most ~] *informal* + old-fashioned : not having courage : COWARDLY • You're a *yellow-bellied* traitor!

yellow card *noun, pl ~ cards* [count] soccer : a yellow card that a referee holds in the air to indicate that a player has broken the rules of the game and is being officially warned — compare RED CARD

yellow fever *noun* [noncount] *medical* : a serious disease that causes fever and often yellowing of the skin and that is passed from one person to another especially by the bite of mosquitoes

yel-low-ish /'jeləwɪʃ/ *adj* : somewhat yellow • a flower with *yellowish* petals • The apple's skin was *yellowish* green.

yellow jacket *noun, pl ~ -ets* [count] US : a small flying insect that has yellow marks on its body and that can sting you

yellow pages *noun*

the yellow pages or *the Yellow Pages* : a phone book or part of a phone book that is printed on yellow paper, that lists the names, addresses, and phone numbers of businesses, organizations, etc., according to what they sell or provide, and that includes advertisements ♦ In British English, *Yellow Pages* is a trademark. — compare WHITE PAGES

yelp /'jelp/ *verb* **yelps; yelped; yelp-ing** [no obj] : to make a quick, high cry or bark • The dog *yelped* in pain.

— **yelp** *noun, pl yelps* [count] • She *gave/made* a *yelp* [=she yelped] when I sprayed her with the hose.

¹**yen** /'jen/ *noun, pl yen*

1 [count] : the basic unit of money of Japan • It costs 300 *yen*.

2 [count] : a coin or bill representing one yen • a handful of *yen*

3 *the yen technical* : the value of the yen compared with the value of the money of other countries • *The yen* fell against the U.S. dollar.

— compare ²YEN

²**yen** *noun* [singular] : a strong desire for something or to do something • I had a *yen* [=craving] for spicy food. • She has a *yen* [=longing] to travel. — compare ¹YEN

yeo-man /'jəʊmən/ *noun, pl -men* [count]

1 : an officer in the U.S. Navy who works as a clerk

2 : a farmer in the past who owned a small amount of land *yeoman's work/service* also *yeoman work/service* US : very good, hard, and valuable work that someone does especially to support a cause, to help a team, etc. • They've done *yeoman's work* in raising money for the organization.

yep /'jep/ *adv, informal* : ¹YES • *Yep*, that's right. — compare NOPE

-yer see ²-ER

¹**yes** /'jes/ *adv*

1 — used to give a positive answer or reply to a question, request, or offer • “Are you ready?” “Yes, I am.” • “Is the supervisor in today?” “Yes.” • “I won’t tolerate this behavior any longer. Do you understand?” “Yes, sir/ma’am.” • I asked her to the dance and she said yes. • “Would you care for some coffee?” “Yes, please/thanks.” [=I would like some coffee] • I’ll **say yes to** anything [=I’ll agree to do or accept anything] at this point. • “Are you happy with your job?” “**Yes and no.**” [=I’m happy about some parts of my job and unhappy about others]

2 — used to express agreement with an earlier statement or to say that statement is true • Yes, I see your point. • “Things could be worse.” “Yes, that’s very true.” • Yes, such a policy would be helpful. • “The concert was good.” “**Yes, but** it was too crowded.”

3 — used to introduce a statement that corrects or disagrees with an earlier negative statement • “She couldn’t have meant that.” “Yes, she did mean it.” • “He wasn’t even there.” “Yes, he was!” • “You can’t do that!” “Oh, yes I can.”

4 — used to emphasize a statement or to make it more precise • We are delighted, yes, truly delighted to see you! • It was amusing, yes, but also very moving.

5 *informal* — used to express excitement, enthusiasm, or relief • “We won!” “Yes!”

6 — used to indicate uncertainty or polite interest • Yes? Can I help you with anything? • “Mr. Jones?” “Yes?” “You have a phone call.”

7 — used to show you have remembered something • Where was I? Oh, yes, I was going to tell you about the dance.

yes, yes — used to show anger or irritation • “We’re leaving in a few minutes. You need to get ready.” “Yes, yes, I know. I heard you the first time.”

²**yes** *noun, pl yes-es also yes-ses* [count] : a positive reply : an answer of yes • We need a yes to go ahead with the project. • She answered all the questions with *yeses* and *nos*.

ye-shi-va or **ye-shi-vah** /jəˈʃi:və/ *noun, pl -shi-vas or -shi-vot* /-,ʃiːˈvoʊt/ [count] : a Jewish school for religious instruction

yes-man /ˈjes,mæn/ *noun, pl -men* /-,men/ [count] *disapproving* : a person (especially a man) who agrees with everything that someone says : a person who supports the opinions or ideas of someone else in order to earn that person’s approval • corporate *yes-men*

¹**yes-ter-day** /ˈjestə,deɪ/ *noun, pl -days*

1 [noncount] : the day before today • Yesterday’s game was canceled because of the rain. • Yesterday was our anniversary. • She gave birth to a healthy baby boy *the day before yesterday*. [=two days ago]

2 [count] *somewhat formal* : a time in the past : the time of previous years • The radio program features *yesterday’s* songs as well as today’s. • Today’s cars aren’t all that different from the models of *yesterday*. • That actor is *yesterday’s news*. [=that actor was popular once, but is not popular now]

²**yesterday** *adv* : on, during, or for the day before today • It rained heavily *yesterday* afternoon. • I mailed the application early/late *yesterday* morning. • It was good to see you *yesterday*. • We met a month ago *yesterday*. [=we met one month and one day ago] • It’s been over a year since we met, but it *seems like only yesterday*. [=it seems as if we just met] *wasn’t born yesterday* see BORN**yes-ter-year** /ˈjestə,jɪə/ *noun*

of yesteryear literary : of the past : from a long time ago • the values of *yesteryear* • radio shows of *yesteryear*

¹**yet** /ˈjet/ *adv*

1 **a** : until now : so far • It’s been the hardest year *yet* for our business. [=this is the hardest year our business has ever had] • His latest novel is his best one *yet*. • They haven’t done much *yet*. = (less commonly) They haven’t *yet* done much. • The team has not *yet* won a game. = The team has not won a game *yet*. = The team has *yet* to win a game. • I haven’t read the book *yet*. **b** : at this time : so soon as now • Has the mail arrived *yet*? • Are we there *yet*? • It’s not time to eat *yet*. • “Are you ready?” “No, not *yet*.” • We don’t *yet* know what their plans are. • Hasn’t she called *yet*? • Their suggestions won’t be implemented, at least not *yet*. • We don’t have a firm grasp of the situation *yet*. • Has he left *yet*? = (US, informal) Did he leave *yet*?

2 **a** : in addition — used for emphasis • They made up *yet* another excuse. • It’s *yet* one more example of poor sportsmanship. **b** : to a greater extent or degree • The case be-

came *yet* [=even] more mysterious as additional facts were revealed.

3 : at a later time • It’s still early. He may *yet* join us for dinner. [=there’s still a chance that he’ll join us for dinner]

4 — used to indicate how long something will last • A nasty cold will probably keep him out of the office for a few days *yet*. [=he will probably be out of the office for a few more days] • It may be some time *yet* before she’s ready to date again.

as yet also as of yet : until the present time : so far • He has not *as yet* heard the result. = *As yet* he has not heard the result. [=he has not yet heard the result]

just yet see ²JUST

the best is yet to come/be see ³BEST

yet again : for another time : AGAIN • They arrived late *yet again*. [=once again]

²**yet** *conj* — used to introduce a statement that adds something to a previous statement and usually contrasts with it in some way • We thought the idea sounded tempting, *yet* [=but] common sense told us it wouldn’t work. • She designs simple *yet* [=but] elegant clothing. • She played well, *yet* she didn’t qualify for the finals. [=although she played well, she didn’t qualify for the finals] • Everyone seemed pleased, *and yet* I had the feeling that something was wrong.

ye-ti /ˈjetɪ/ *noun, pl -tis* [count] : ABOMINABLE SNOWMAN

yew /ˈju:/ *noun, pl yews*

1 [count] : an evergreen tree or bush with stiff needles and small red berries

2 [noncount] : the wood of a yew • a bow made of *yew*

Yid-dish /ˈjɪdɪʃ/ *noun* [noncount] : a language based on German that is written in Hebrew characters and that was originally spoken by Jews of central and eastern Europe

— **Yiddish** *adj* • **Yiddish** words/expressions • **Yiddish** culture

¹**yield** /ˈji:ld/ *verb* **yields; yield-ed; yield-ing**

1 [+ *obj*] **a** : to produce or provide (something, such as a plant or crop) • The apple/peach trees *yielded* an abundant harvest. • This soil should *yield* good crops. • The seeds *yield* a rich oil. **b** : to produce (something) as a result of time, effort, or work • New methods have *yielded* promising results in the field. • The studies *yielded* clear evidence. — sometimes + *up* • Their research has *yielded up* some surprising results. **c** : to produce (a profit, an amount of money, etc.) • The tax is expected to *yield* millions. • The bond *yields* seven percent annually.

2 [no *obj*] : to agree to do or accept something that you have been resisting : to stop trying to resist or oppose something • After several hours of debate, the opposition *yielded*. — often + *to* • The company refused to *yield to* the protesters’ demands. • The architect *yielded to* critics and changed the design. • I finally *yielded to* temptation and had some cake.

3 **a** [+ *obj*] : to allow (something) to be taken or controlled by another person, group, etc. • Ground troops refused to *yield* [= (more commonly) *surrender*] the fortress to the enemy. — sometimes used figuratively • Despite all my arguments she was unwilling to *yield* the point to me. [=she was unwilling to admit that I was right] **b formal** : to give (someone) the chance to speak at a public meeting — + *to* [+ *obj*] I *yield* the floor *to* the Senator from Maine. [no *obj*] I *yield to* the Senator. **c** [no *obj*] : to stop trying to fight someone or something • The enemy refused to *yield*. [=give up]

4 [no *obj*] : to bend, stretch, or break because of physical force or pressure • Ripe fruit should *yield* slightly to pressure. [=ripe fruit should be just a little bit soft] • The heavy weight caused the rope to *yield*.

5 **US** : to allow another car or person to go ahead of you or in front of you [no *obj*] The driver failed to *yield* [= (Brit) *give way*] and was hit by another car. • You must *yield to* pedestrians in the crosswalk. [+ *obj*] Oncoming traffic must *yield* the right-of-way.

²**yield** *noun, pl yields* [count]

1 : the amount of something that is produced by a plant, farm, etc. • Our *yield* of wheat increased this year. • The average *yield* per tree is about one bushel.

2 : the profit made from an investment • The *yield* on government bonds is currently seven percent. • stocks with high-percentage *yields*

yield-ing /ˈji:ldɪŋ/ *adj*

1 [more ~; most ~] : tending to do or willing to do what other people want • She has a gentle, *yielding* temperament.

2 : producing an indicated amount of something — used in combination • a high-*yielding* crop • low-*yielding* securities [=securities that do not produce a high profit]

- 3** [more ~; most ~] : bending or stretching easily : not rigid or stiff • The seat was made with a soft and *yielding* material.
- yikes** /'jaɪks/ *interj, informal* — used to express a feeling of fear or surprise • *Yikes! Is it really midnight already? • Yikes, I didn't see you there.*
- yin** /'jin/ *noun [noncount]* in Chinese philosophy : one of the two forces that together form everything that exists : the female principle of the universe that is considered dark and passive and is associated with earth — compare **YANG**
- the yin and yang** chiefly *US* : the two opposite sides or parts of something • learning about *the yin and yang* of politics
- yip** /'jɪp/ *verb* **yips; yipped; yip-ping** [*no obj*] *US, of a dog* : to bark in high, quick sounds • We could hear the puppy *yipping* playfully in its kennel.
- yip-pee** /'jɪpi/ *interj, informal + old-fashioned* — used to express delight or joy • *Yippee! We're on vacation!*
- YMCA** /,waɪ,em,sɪ'eɪ/ *noun*
- the YMCA** : an international organization originally for young men that provides social programs, a place for athletic activities, etc., for the people in a community • He's a member of *the YMCA*. • We play basketball every weekend at *the YMCA*. [=at the building owned and operated by the YMCA] — often used before another noun • a *YMCA membership* — called also (*US, informal*) *the Y* ♦ *YMCA* is an abbreviation of "Young Men's Christian Association."
- yo** /'jəʊ/ *interj, US, informal* — used especially to attract someone's attention, as a greeting, or in response to a greeting • *Yo! What's up? • Yo! Listen up!*
- yob** /'jɒb/ *noun, pl yobs* [*count*] *Brit, informal* : a teenage boy or young man who does noisy and sometimes violent things as part of a group or gang : **HOOLIGAN** • A couple of *yobs* damaged his car.
- ¹yo-del** /'jəʊdl/ *verb -dels; US -deled or Brit -delled; US -del-ing or Brit -del-ling* : to sing loudly while changing your voice back and forth between a natural pitch and a higher pitch [*no obj*] The mountaineers were *yodeling*. [*+ obj*] She *yodeled* a song.
- **yo-del-er** (*US*) or **Brit yo-del-ler** /'jəʊdlə/ *noun, pl -ers* [*count*]
- ²yodel** /'jəʊdl/ *noun, pl yodels* [*count*] : a song, shout, or cry made by yodeling
- yo-ga** /'jəʊgə/ *noun [noncount]*
- 1** : a system of exercises for mental and physical health • She teaches *yoga*. • a *yoga class/instructor*
- 2 Yoga** : a Hindu philosophy that teaches a person to experience inner peace by controlling the body and mind
- yo-gi** /'jəʊgi/ *noun, pl -gis* [*count*]
- 1** : a person who practices yoga
- 2 Yogī** : a follower of Yoga
- yo-gurt** also *Brit yo-ghurt* /'jəʊgət/ *noun, pl -gurts* [*count, noncount*] : a food that is made when bacteria is added to milk and that is often flavored and chilled • *blueberry yogurt*
- ¹yoke** /'jəʊk/ *noun, pl yokes*
- 1** [*count*] : a bar or frame that is attached to the heads or necks of two work animals (such as oxen) so that they can pull a plow or heavy load
- 2** [*singular*] *formal + literary* : something that causes people to be treated cruelly and unfairly especially by taking away their freedom — + *of* • The country has struggled to free itself from the *yoke of* foreign rule. • the *yoke of* tyranny
- ²yoke** *verb* **yokes; yoked; yok-ing** [*+ obj*] : to connect (two animals) by a yoke • The two oxen were *yoked* together. — often used figuratively • He was *yoked* to his job.
- yo-kel** /'jəʊkəl/ *noun, pl -kels* [*count*] *informal* — used as an insulting word for a person who lives in a small town or in the country far away from cities and is regarded as stupid • He dismissed his critics as a bunch of *yokels*.
- yolk** /'jəʊk/ *noun, pl yolks* [*count, noncount*] : the yellow part in the center of an egg
- Yom Kip-pur** /,jəʊmkɪ'puə/ *noun [noncount]* : a Jewish holiday observed in September or October during which Jewish people do not eat or drink anything and pray to ask for forgiveness for mistakes made during the year
- yon** /'jɑ:n/ *adv, old-fashioned + literary* : to that place • They have been traveling *hither and yon*. [=here and there; traveling to many different places]
- yon-der** /'jɑ:ndə/ *adv, old-fashioned + literary* : at or in that place : over there • the trees over *yonder* • We could see people gathering down *yonder* by the riverbank.
- **yonder** *adj* • from *yonder* tower [=from the tower over there]

yonks /'jɑ:nks/ *noun [noncount]* *Brit, informal* : a long period of time • She's lived there for *yonks* [=ages] now.

yoof /'ju:f/ *noun [noncount]* *Brit, informal + humorous* : young people as a group • the nation's *yoof* [=youth] • *yoof* culture

yoo-hoo /'ju:hu:/ *interj, informal* — used to attract someone's attention or to call out to someone • *Yoo-hoo! We're over here! • Yoo-hoo! Is anybody there?*

yore /'jəʊ/ *noun*

of yore *literary* : of the past • in days of *yore* [=of old] • The great composers of *yore* performed for kings and queens.

York-shire pudding /'jəʊksʃə-/ *noun, pl ~ -dings* [*count, noncount*] : a baked British food that is made from eggs, flour, and milk and that is traditionally served with meat

Yorkshire terrier *noun, pl ~ -ers* [*count*] : a very small dog with long straight hair that is brown or tan and gray — see picture at **DOG**

you /'ju:, jə/ *pronoun*

1 — used to refer to the person or group of people that is being addressed as the subject of a verb or as the object of a verb or preposition • *You* are absolutely right. • I love *you*. • What did she tell *you*? • *You* have been a pleasure to work with. • *You* can't be serious. • What did *you* mean by that? • How can I help *you*? • I'd like to have a talk with *you*. • I'll meet *you* there. • We will give *you* a few hours to discuss the matter. • Divide it between *you*. [=yourselves] • We hope to see *you* both at the party. = We hope to see both of *you* at the party.

2 — used to refer to any person or to people in general • If *you* smoke too much, *you* may harm your lungs. • The work is hard, but after a while, *you* get used to it. • How do *you* change a tire? [=what is the proper way to change a tire?]

3 informal — used to address someone directly • "*You* in the red shirt! Come here!" — often used before another noun • *You* fool! • *You* guys crack me up. • Calm down, *you* two.

for you *informal* — used to say that someone has done something that is typical or expected • He's already forgotten he was hurt—that's a child *for you*. [=that's the way children are] — often used to show disapproval • The mayor never responded to our complaints—that's city government *for you*!

you and yours : you and the people in your family or the people you care about • Best wishes to *you and yours* for a joyous holiday season.

you-all /ju:'ɑ:l, 'jɑ:l/ *pronoun, US, informal* — used mainly in speech in the Southern U.S. to address two or more people • How are *you-all* [=y'all] doing?

you'd /'ju:d, jəd/ — used as a contraction of *you had* or *you would* • If *you'd* [=you had] read the note, it would have saved us some trouble. • *You'd* [=you would] be surprised how easy it was to assemble.

you-know-what *noun [noncount] informal*

1 — used in speech to refer to something that is not named but is known to both the hearer and speaker • I've hidden the *you-know-what* in the closet.

2 — used in place of a rude or offensive word in order to express anger or annoyance • He's a complete *you-know-what*. • That's a big pile of *you-know-what*.

you-know-who *noun [noncount] informal* — used in speech to refer to someone who is not named but is known to both the hearer and speaker • We're planning to throw a party for *you-know-who*.

you'll /'ju:l, jəl/ — used as a contraction of *you will* • I hope *you'll* come to the party. • *You'll* love this movie.

¹young /'jʌŋ/ *adj* **youn-ger** /'jʌŋgə/; **-gest** /-gəst/

1 : in an early stage of life, growth, or development : not yet old • mothers with *young* children • a lively *young* colt • a *young* tomato plant • He looks *young* for his age. • A very nice *young* man/woman greeted us at the door. • *Young* people today have a lot of opportunities. • He dreamed of being an artist when he was *young*. • soldiers who died *young* • The movie isn't suitable for *young* viewers. • my *younger* brother • He's still too *young* to buy alcohol legally. • Our *youngest* daughter just started school. • He worked as a farmhand in his *younger* days. [=when he was younger] • The band members are still *young at heart*. [=they think and act like young people; they are active and have a lot of energy] • "*When I was young*," the man said, "the world was a different place."

2 : recently formed, produced, started, etc. • a *young* [=new] publishing company • a *young* industry • The season is still *young*. • a *young* cheese • *young* wine

not getting any younger *informal + humorous* — used to

say that someone is getting older and may not have much more time to do something • If we really want to see Paris, we should do it soon, We're *not getting any younger*, you know.

the younger 1 — used in comparing the ages of two people who are members of the same family • He's *the younger* of her two brothers. 2 — used to refer to the younger of two people (such as a father and son) who have the same name • the painters Hans Holbein the Elder and his son Hans Holbein *the Younger*

years young informal — used to describe an older person's age in a way that is meant to suggest that the person still looks or feels young • She's 60 *years young* today!

you're only young once — used to say that people should enjoy themselves while they are young

²young noun

1 **the young** : young people • music that appeals to *the young* • The very *young* and the elderly are particularly sensitive to the disease.

2 [plural] : young animals, birds, etc. • a robin feeding her *young* • The *young* of a wolf are called pups.

young and old : young and old people • The game is played by *young and old* alike. • a story for *young and old* [=a story that will appeal to people of all ages]

young gun noun, pl ~ guns [count] informal : a young person who is successful or who is expected to be successful • He's one of the *young guns* at the law firm.

young-ish /'jʌŋɪʃ/ *adj* : somewhat young • a *youngish* physician

young offender noun, pl ~ -ers [count] Brit : a criminal who is under the age of 18

young-ster /'jʌŋstə/ *noun, pl -sters [count] somewhat old-fashioned* : a young person • As a *youngster*, he was very shy. • bright-eyed *youngsters* interested in learning

your /'joʊ, jə/ *adj, always used before a noun, possessive form of YOU*

1 : relating to or belonging to you • *Your* garden is beautiful. • Please wash *your* hands before dinner. • What is *your* new house like? • You forgot *your* wallet at the restaurant. • Don't worry about me—you've got **your own** problems. : made or done by you • *Your* contributions are valuable. • Did you finish *your* homework? • With *your* permission, we can take a blood test. • You always manage to impress us with *your* ideas.

2 — used to refer to any person or to people in general • She's not *your* [=a] typical teenager. • Exercising regularly is good for *your* [=one's] health.

3 — used in the titles of royalty, judges, etc. • *Your Majesty* • May we approach the bench, *Your Honor*?

Do not confuse *your* with *you're*.

you're /'joʊ, jə/ — used as a contraction of *you are* • *You're* not going fast enough. • She thinks *you're* a nice guy.

Do not confuse *you're* with *your*.

yours /'joʊz/ *pronoun*

1 : that which belongs to you : your one : your ones • This glass is *yours*. [=this glass belongs to you; it is your glass] • *Yours* is the glass on the left. [=your glass is the one on the left] • My car is old, but *yours* is older. • The responsibility for keeping the apartment clean is *yours*. • All those CDs *of yours* take up an awful lot of space. • Is that guy a friend *of yours*? [=your friend] • My wife is a big fan *of yours*.

2 — used at the end of an informal letter • *Yours*, David

3 *old-fashioned* : your letter • This is in reply to *yours* of the 24th.

up yours see ³UP

you and yours see YOU

yours ever or ever yours see EVER

yours sincerely or sincerely yours see SINCERELY

yours truly see TRULY

yourself /jə'self/ *pronoun*

1 : the person that is being addressed **a** — used as the object of a verb or preposition when the person being addressed has already been mentioned • You've got to behave *yourself*. • Be careful or you might hurt *yourself*. • When you need to relax, picture/imagine *yourself* at the beach listening to the gentle sound of the waves. • You need to feel good about *yourself*. • You can judge for *yourself*. • You should make a mental note to *yourself*. • You're making a fool/spectacle of *yourself*. **b** — used to emphasize that a particular person already mentioned has done, thought, or said some-

thing • You reminded them *yourself*, remember? • If you're not happy with the paint job, you can repaint the whole thing *yourself*. — often used after the noun or pronoun it refers to • You *yourself* reminded them, remember?

2 : your normal or healthy self • You're not *yourself* today. Is something wrong? • You'll feel like *yourself* again after some time away.

be yourself : to act or behave as you normally do • If you want to get a girl to like you, the best thing you can do is just *be yourself*.

by yourself 1 : without any help • You will have to make dinner *by yourself* tonight. • You fixed the car (all) *by yourself*? 2 : with nobody else • Do you like living *by yourself*? • You're not traveling there *by yourself*.

your-selves /jə'selvz/ *pronoun*

1 : those ones that are you: **a** — used as the object of a verb or preposition to refer to a group of people who are being addressed after that group has already been mentioned • You children deserve to buy *yourselves* a treat. • You have a right to be proud of *yourselves*. • You can judge for *yourselves*. **b** — used for emphasis to refer again to a group that is being addressed after that group has already been mentioned • You should have done it *yourselves*. • Did you guys build the house *yourselves*? • Keep in mind that you were young once *yourselves*.

2 : your normal or healthy selves • You'll feel more like *yourselves* after a good rest.

by yourselves 1 : without any help • I can't believe you fixed the car *by yourselves*. 2 : with nobody else • You boys aren't old enough to go to the mall *by yourselves*.

youth /'ju:θ/ *noun, pl youths* /'ju:ðz/

1 [noncount] : the time of life when someone is young : the time when a young person has not yet become an adult • She had a troubled/privileged *youth*. • He spent his *youth* in the Midwest. • He got into a lot of trouble in his *youth*. • a generation trying to recapture lost *youth* • *youth* groups • (Brit) a *youth club* [=a club that provides various activities for young people] — see also FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH

2 [noncount] : the time when something is new and not yet established • when the industry was still in its *youth*

3 [count] : a teenage boy or young man • a tough-looking *youth* • Four *youths* are suspected of starting the fire.

4 **the youth** : young people • *the youth* of today • The show sends a strong message to *the youth* of America. • *The city's youth* need strong role models.

5 [noncount] : the quality or state of being young • She's 70 years old but still full of *youth*.

gilded youth see GILD

youth-ful /'ju:θfəl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~]

1 : having or showing the freshness or energy of someone who is young • *youthful* good looks • He's a *youthful* 50-year-old. • My grandparents are still very *youthful*.

2 : having or showing the innocence, hope, lack of knowledge, etc., of someone who is young • *youthful* optimism • *youthful* inexperience

— **youth-ful-ly** *adv* • a *youthfully* energetic group — **youth-ful-ness** *noun* [noncount]

youth hostel *noun, pl ~ -tels [count] : HOSTEL*

you've /'ju:v, jəv/ — used as a contraction of *you have* • I think *you've* solved the problem.

yowl /'jəʊl/ *verb* **yowls; yowled; yowl-ing** [no obj] : to make a loud, long cry of grief, pain, or distress • The cat was *yowling* outside. • He was *yowling* in pain.

— **yowl** *noun, pl yowls* [count] • He let out a *yowl* when he caught his finger in the door.

¹**yo-yo** /'joʊ,jou/ *noun, pl yo-yos*

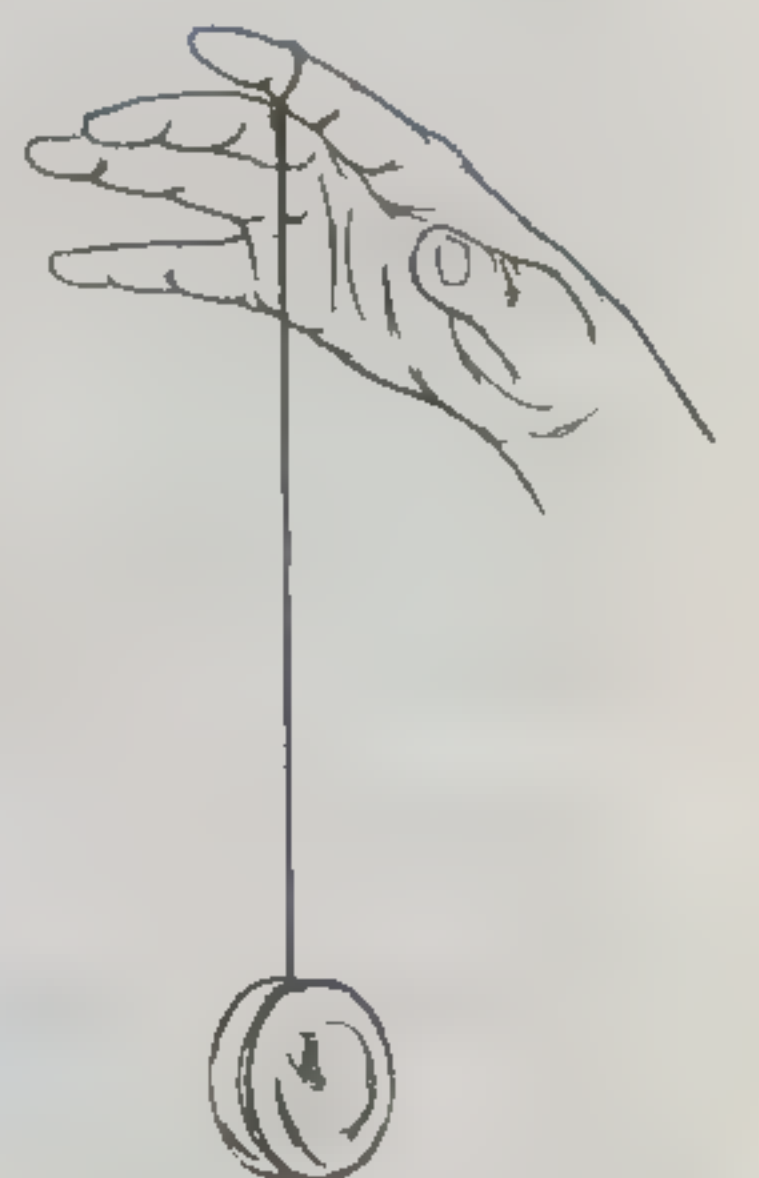
[count] : a round toy that has two flat sides with a string attached to its center, that is held in your hand, and that is made to go up and down by unwinding and rewinding the string with a movement of your wrist

²**yo-yo** *verb* **yo-yos; yo-yoed; yo-yo-ing** [no obj] : to move repeatedly and quickly up and down or from a higher level to a lower level • Her weight has *yo-yoed* in recent years. [=she has lost weight and then gained weight again quickly]

yr. abbr 1 year 2 your

YT *abbr* Yukon Territory

yu-an /'ju:wən/ *noun, pl yuan* [count] : the basic unit of money in China; *also* : a coin or bill worth one yuan



yo-yo

yuc·ca /'jʌkə/ *noun*, *pl* **-cas** [count] : a type of plant that grows in dry regions and has hard pointed leaves at the base and a long stem with white flowers

yuck /'jʌk/ *interj*, *informal* — used to express disgust • *Yuck, I hate meat loaf.*

yucky *also* **US yuk·ky** /'jʌki/ *adj* **yuck·i·er** *also* **yuk·ki·er**; **-est** [*also more ~; most ~*] *informal*

1 : causing discomfort, disgust, or a strong feeling of dislike : unpleasant and disgusting • The water was dirty and smelled *yucky*. • *yucky* food

2 : having an unpleasant feeling in your stomach : somewhat sick • I felt *yucky* after eating all that cake.

Yule /'ju:l/ *noun*, *pl* **Yules** [count, noncount] *old-fashioned* : CHRISTMAS • the *Yule* season

yule log *noun*, *pl* ~ **logs** [count] : a large log that is traditionally burned in a fireplace on Christmas Eve

Yule-tide /'ju:l,taid/ *noun*, *pl* **-tides** [count, noncount] *old-fashioned + literary* : the Christmas season • the festive atmosphere of *Yuletide* • *Yuletide* cheer

yum·my /'jʌmi/ *adj* **yum·mi·er**; **-est** [*also more ~; most ~*] *informal* : very pleasing to the taste : DELICIOUS • a *yummy* dessert • He prepared all sorts of *yummy* dishes.

yup /'jʌp/ *adv*, *informal* : YES • "It's cold out, isn't it?" "Yup, it sure is."

yup·pie /'jʌpi/ *noun*, *pl* **-pies** [count] *often disapproving* : a young college-educated adult who has a job that pays a lot of money and who lives and works in or near a large city • Her friends are just a bunch of *yuppies*. — often used before another noun • her *yuppie* friends

yup·pi·fy /'jʌpə,fai/ *verb* **-fies**; **-fied**; **-fy·ing** [+ *obj*] *informal + disapproving* : to change (a city, neighborhood, etc.) so that it is more appealing to young people who make a lot of money : to make (something) appealing to *yuppies* • a *yuppi-fied* neighborhood/restaurant

YWCA /,waɪ,dʌbəljuː,sɪˈeɪ/ *noun*

the YWCA : an international organization that provides social programs, a place for athletic activities, etc., for the people and especially the women in a community • She's a member of *the YWCA*. • The meeting will be held at *the YWCA*. [=at the building owned and operated by the YWCA] — often used before another noun • a *YWCA* membership — called also (US, *informal*) *the Y* ♦ *YWCA* is an abbreviation of "Young Women's Christian Association."

Z

z or **Z** /'ziː, Brit 'zed/ *noun*, *pl* **z's** or **zs** or **Z's** or **Zs** /'ziːz, Brit 'zedz/

1 : the 26th letter of the English alphabet [count] a word that begins with a *z* [noncount] a word that begins with *z*

2 *Z's* *also* *Zs* or *z's* [plural] *US, informal* : SLEEP • I managed to catch/get some *Z's* [=get some sleep] on the flight.

3 [noncount] — used in the phrase *x, y, and z* to refer to the third thing in a group of three unnamed things • She says that I need to do *x, y, and z* before I can be promoted.

from *A to Z* see ¹A

zaf·tig /'zɑːftɪg/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *chiefly US, informal, of a woman* : slightly fat in an attractive way : having a full, rounded figure • The actress playing the lead role was a *zaf-tig* blonde.

za·ny /'zeɪni/ *adj* **za·ni·er**; **-est** [*also more ~; most ~*] *informal* : very strange and silly • my *zany* [=wacky] aunt • He has a *zany* [=crazy] sense of humor.

— **za·ni·ness** /'zeɪnɪnəs/ *noun* [noncount]

zap /'zæp/ *verb* **zaps**; **zapped**; **zap·ping** *informal*

1 [+ *obj*] **a** : to attack, destroy, or kill (someone or something) quickly • The flowers were *zapped* by the cold weather. — often used figuratively • The loss on Monday *zapped* [=killed] any chance the team had to go on to the finals. • He was *zapped* [=hit] with a finance charge because of a single late payment. **b** : to hit (someone or something) with electricity • Lightning *zapped* [=struck] the tree. = The tree was *zapped* by lightning. • She won't work with the wiring because she's afraid of getting *zapped*. [=shocked, electrocuted] **c** : to shoot (someone or something) with an electric gun, laser, etc. • The aliens in the movie *zapped* people from spaceships. • The doctor *zapped* [=removed] a mole on the patient's back with a laser.

2 [+ *obj*] *informal* : to heat or cook (something) in a microwave oven • She reheated her muffin by *zapping* it in the microwave for a few seconds.

3 : to change what you are watching on television by using an electronic device (called a remote control) [*no obj*] I *zapped* through the channels for a while before falling asleep. • We tape the show so we can *zap* through the commercials. [+ *obj*] We tape the show so we can *zap* [=skip] the commercials.

4 **a** [*no obj*] : to move quickly or suddenly • Pain *zapped* through his ankle. **b** [+ *obj*] : to send (something or someone) quickly from one place to another through electronic means • He can *zap* the file to the office from his laptop. • The images can be *zapped* into our homes from anywhere via satellite. • In the movie the hero is *zapped* into the past in a time machine.

zap·per /'zæpə/ *noun*, *pl* **-pers** [count] *informal*

1 : an electronic device that attracts and kills insects • a bug *zapper*

2 *Brit* : REMOTE CONTROL 1

zeal /'ziːl/ *noun* [noncount] : a strong feeling of interest and enthusiasm that makes someone very eager or determined to do something • She attacked her homework with renewed *zeal* [=enthusiasm] after getting her first A. • a politician known for his *zeal* [=passion] for reform • religious/entrepreneurial *zeal* • The camp counselors enforced regulations with excessive *zeal*. [=enforced regulations too strictly]

zeal·ot /'zelət/ *noun*, *pl* **-ots** [count] *often disapproving* : a person who has very strong feelings about something (such as religion or politics) and who wants other people to have those feelings : a zealous person • religious *zealots* [=fanatics] • Her father is an exercise *zealot*. [=he is very serious about exercising]

— **zeal·ot·ry** /'zelətri/ *noun* [noncount] • religious *zealotry*

zeal·ous /'zeləs/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : feeling or showing strong and energetic support for a person, cause, etc. : filled with *zeal* • *zealous* fans • She was one of the president's most *zealous* [=ardent] supporters. • The detective was *zealous* in her pursuit of the kidnappers.

— **zeal·ous·ly** *adv* • She *zealously* pursued the kidnappers.

— **zeal·ous·ness** *noun* [noncount]

ze·bra /'ziːbrə, Brit 'zebrə/ *noun*, *pl* **ze·bras** *also* **zebra** [count] : an African animal that looks like a horse and has black and white stripes covering its body

zebra crossing *noun*, *pl* ~ **-ings** [count] *Brit* : a path that is painted with stripes on a street or road and that marks the place where people can safely cross : CROSS-WALK — compare PELICAN CROSSING

zed /'zed/ *noun*, *pl* **zeds** [count] *Brit* : the letter *z*

zee /'ziː/ *noun*, *pl* **zees** [count] *US* : the letter *z*

zeit·geist /'zaɪt,gaɪst/ *noun* [singular] : the general beliefs, ideas, and spirit of a time and place • His songs perfectly captured the *zeitgeist* of 1960s America.

Zen /'zen/ *noun* [noncount] : a Japanese form of Buddhism that emphasizes meditation — called also *Zen Buddhism*

ze·nith /'ziːnəθ, Brit 'zenəθ/ *noun* [singular]

1 *formal* : the strongest or most successful period of time • At its *zenith* [=peak] in the 1980s, the company employed more than 300 people. • That was the *zenith* [=the highest



zebra

point] of her career. — opposite NADIR

2 technical : the highest point reached in the sky by the sun, moon, etc.

zeph·yr /ˈzɛfə/ *noun*, *pl* **-yrs** [*count*] *literary* : a very slight or gentle wind • a gentle zephyr

zep·pe·lin /ˈzɛpələn/ *noun*, *pl* **-lins** [*count*] : a large aircraft without wings that floats because it is filled with gas and that has a rigid frame inside its body to help it keep its shape — compare AIRSHIP, BLIMP, HOT-AIR BALLOON

1 ze·ro /ˈziroʊ/ *noun*, *pl* **ze·ros** also **ze·roes**

1 : the number 0 [*count*] One million is a one with six zeros [= (Brit) noughts] after it. [*noncount*] Two minus two equals zero.

2 [*noncount*] : the temperature shown by the zero mark on a thermometer • It's supposed to fall below zero tonight. • The temperature is 10° above/below zero. — see also ABSOLUTE ZERO, SUBZERO

3 [*noncount*] : nothing at all • They are working to reduce the mortality rate to zero. • Her contribution to the project was close to zero. [=she did almost nothing on the project] • The car can go from zero to 60 in 10 seconds. [=from not moving at all to going 60 miles per hour in 10 seconds] • (*informal*) I know zero [=nada, zilch] about fixing computers. • You'll have to start from zero [=from scratch] if you can't find your notes.

4 [*count*] *informal* : a person who is not important, interesting, popular, etc. — usually singular • Her new boyfriend's a real zero. [=loser]

— see also GROUND ZERO

2 zero *adj* : not any • The economy experienced zero [=no] inflation last year. • (*informal*) He has zero [=no] chance of winning. = His chances of winning are zero. [=nonexistent]

3 zero *verb* **zeroes**; **ze·roed**; **ze·ro·ing** [+ *obj*] *technical* : to set (a measuring device, such as a scale) so that it reads 0 • zero the scale

zero in on [*phrasal verb*] **zero in on** (someone or something)

1 : to direct all of your attention to (someone or something) • My teacher helped me zero in on my problems with algebra. • Scientists are hoping to zero in on a cure. **2** : to aim something (such as a gun or camera) directly at (someone or something) • The gunner zeroed in on the target. • He zeroed in on her with the camera.

zero out [*phrasal verb*] **zero (something) out** or **zero out (something)** *US* : to reduce the amount of (something) to zero • Be sure to zero out [=empty] the account before you switch banks. : to remove (something) completely • New legislation will zero out further funding for the project. [=will completely eliminate further funding for the project] • This program will be zeroed out [=eliminated] in the budget for next year.

zero gravity *noun* [*noncount*] : a state or condition in which there is no gravity • experiments conducted in zero gravity

zero hour *noun* [*noncount*] : the time at which an event (such as a military attack) is scheduled to begin

zero-sum game *noun* [*singular*] : a situation in which one person or group can win something only by causing another person or group to lose it • Dividing up the budget is a zero-sum game.

zero tolerance *noun* [*noncount*] : a policy of giving the most severe punishment possible to every person who commits a crime or breaks a rule • The police announced that there will be zero tolerance for looters. [=anyone caught looting will be punished as harshly as possible] • The camp has a zero tolerance drug and alcohol policy. [=drugs and alcohol are not allowed at the camp and anyone found with drugs or alcohol will be punished]

zest /ˈzɛst/ *noun*

1 a : lively excitement : a feeling of enjoyment and enthusiasm [*noncount*] We'd hoped to recapture some of the zest [=energy] and enthusiasm of youth at the reunion. [*singular*] She has a real zest for life. [=she enjoys life very much] **b** : a lively quality that increases enjoyment, excitement, or energy [*noncount*] His humor added zest to the performance. [*singular*] His humor added a certain zest to the performance. **2** [*noncount*] : small pieces of the skin of a lemon, orange, or lime that are used to flavor food • The recipe calls for a tablespoon of lemon zest. — compare ²PEEL, RIND

— **zest·ful** /ˈzɛstfəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] • a zestful performance — **zest·ful·ly** *adv*

zesty /ˈzɛsti/ *adj* **zest·i·er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] *chiefly US*

1 : having a strong, pleasant, and somewhat spicy flavor • a zesty sauce

2 : lively and pleasing : full of zest • zesty humor

— **zest·i·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

1 zig·zag /ˈzɪɡ,zæɡ/ *noun*, *pl* **-zags** [*count*] : a line that has a series of short, sharp turns or angles •

The kids were running in circles and zigzags around the yard. • He's wearing a shirt with red zigzags on it. • a zigzag pattern



zigzag

2 zigzag *verb* **-zags**; **-zagged**; **-zag·ging** [*no obj*] : to move along a path that has a series of short, sharp turns or angles • We saw a motorcycle zigzagging on the highway. • The player with the ball zigzagged back and forth down the field. • A dirt road zigzags up the steep hill to our cabin.

zilch /ˈzɪlʃ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *informal* : nothing at all • I know zilch about him. • She's done zilch [=nada] to help me out.

zil·lion /ˈzɪljən/ *noun*, *pl* **-lions** [*count*] *informal* : a very large number • zillions of ants • I have a zillion chores to finish before we can leave.

Zim·mer frame /ˈzɪmə-/ *trademark, Brit* — used for a metal frame that someone (such as an injured or elderly person) can use for support while walking

zinc /ˈzɪŋk/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a bluish-white metal that is very common and is used especially to make brass and as a protective coating for things made of iron and steel

zine /ˈziːn/ *noun*, *pl* **zines** [*count*] *informal* : a small magazine that is written by people who are not professional writers and that usually has stories about a particular subject • a punk zine ♦ Zine is a shortened form of the word magazine. — see also FANZINE

1 zing /ˈzɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *informal* : a quality that makes something exciting, interesting, etc. • They needed to put some zing back into their relationship. • A brightly colored scarf can add zing [=interest] to any basic black outfit. • The chili peppers give the sauce a little extra zing.

2 zing *verb* **zings**; **zinged**; **zing·ing** *informal*

1 [*no obj*] : to move very quickly and make a humming sound • The bullets zinged [=zipped] past our ears.

2 [+ *obj*] *US, informal* : to insult or criticize (someone) in a sharp, clever, or playful way • The comics spent the evening cracking jokes and zinging each other. • His opponent has run television ads zinging him.

zing·er /ˈzɪŋə/ *noun*, *pl* **-ers** [*count*] *US, informal* : a quick and clever comment that criticizes or insults someone • The candidate couldn't help getting off a zinger or two about his opponent.

zin·nia /ˈzɪniə/ *noun*, *pl* **-nias** [*count*] : a plant that is grown in gardens for its brightly colored flowers

Zi·on·ism /ˈzəjənɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : political support for the creation and development of a Jewish homeland in Israel

— **Zi·on·ist** /ˈzəjənɪst/ *noun*, *pl* **-ists** [*count*] — **Zionist** *adj* • the Zionist movement

1 zip /ˈzɪp/ *verb* **zips**; **zipped**; **zip·ping**

1 : to close, open, or connect something with a zipper [+ *obj*] I helped him zip his jacket. • She zipped the tent open/closed. [*no obj*] The luggage zips open.

2 [+ *obj*] *computers* : to reduce the size of (a file) by using special software : COMPRESS • This kind of file can be zipped and unzipped easily.

zip up [*phrasal verb*] **1 zip (something) up** or **zip up (something)** : to close or connect (something) with a zipper • He zipped up his jacket. **2 zip (someone) up** or **zip up (someone)** : to use a zipper to fasten someone's clothing • Will you zip me up, please? • I zipped her up because she couldn't do it herself.

zip your lip or **zip it** *US, informal* : to stop talking immediately • Tell your sister to zip her lip! [=shut up] • She angrily told him to zip it.

— compare ³ZIP

2 zip *noun*, *pl* **zips** [*count*] *Brit* : ZIPPER • The zip was stuck and we couldn't open the suitcase. — compare ⁴ZIP, ⁵ZIP, ⁶ZIP

3 zip *verb*, always followed by an adverb or preposition **zips**; **zipped**; **zipping** [*no obj*] : to move or act very quickly • We zipped [=rushed] through the store to find my sister some jeans. • Cars were zipping past us on the highway. • The motorcyclist was zipping in and out of traffic. — compare ¹ZIP

4 zip *noun* [*noncount*] *informal*

1 : energy and excitement • The performance seemed to lack *zip*. • We'll try to add a little *zip* [=zing] to the usual recipe. • Plant some red flowers to give your garden more *zip*.

2 : speed of movement • The pitcher put some extra *zip* on his fastball. • a car with plenty of *zip*
— compare ²ZIP, ⁵ZIP, ⁶ZIP

⁵**zip** *noun* [noncount] *US, informal*

1 : nothing at all • My opinion counts for *zip* around here. • The city council has done *zip* to deal with this problem. • I know *zip* [=zilch] about carpentry.

2 : a score of zero • We won the game 7-*zip*. • The final score was 7 to *zip*. [= (Brit) nil]
— compare ²ZIP, ⁴ZIP, ⁶ZIP

⁶**zip** or **ZIP** /'zip/ *noun, pl zips or ZIPs* [count] *US* : ZIP CODE
— compare ²ZIP, ⁴ZIP, ⁵ZIP

zip code or **ZIP code** *noun, pl ~ codes* [count] *US* : a group of numbers that is used in the U.S. as part of an address to identify a mail delivery area (such as a town or a part of a city) — called also *zip*; compare POSTCODE

zip file also **zipped file** *noun, pl ~ files* [count] *computers* : a computer file in which a large amount of repeated information has been removed to make it smaller

zip-per /'zipə/ *noun, pl -pers* [count] *US* : a device that is made of two rows of metal or plastic teeth and another piece that slides over the teeth to make them fit together or come apart and that is used to fasten clothing, open or close bags, etc. • The *zipper* was stuck and we couldn't open the suitcase. • Can you help him with his *zipper*? — called also (Brit) *zip*

— **zipper** *verb* -pers; -pered; -per-ing [+ *obj*] • She *zippered* [=zipped] the bag shut. — **zip-pered** /'zipəd/ *adj* • The purse has several *zippered* compartments.

zip-po /'zipou/ *noun* [noncount] *US, informal* : nothing at all • I know *zilch*, *nada*, *zippo* about wine.

zip-py /'zipi/ *adj* **zip-pl-er**; -est [also more ~; most ~] *informal*

1 : very fast : SPEEDY • a *zippy* little car

2 : appealingly stylish • a *zippy* [=snappy] outfit

3 : having a spicy flavor • a *zippy* hot sauce

zit /'zit/ *noun, pl zits* [count] *informal* : a small, red, swollen spot on the skin : PIMPLE

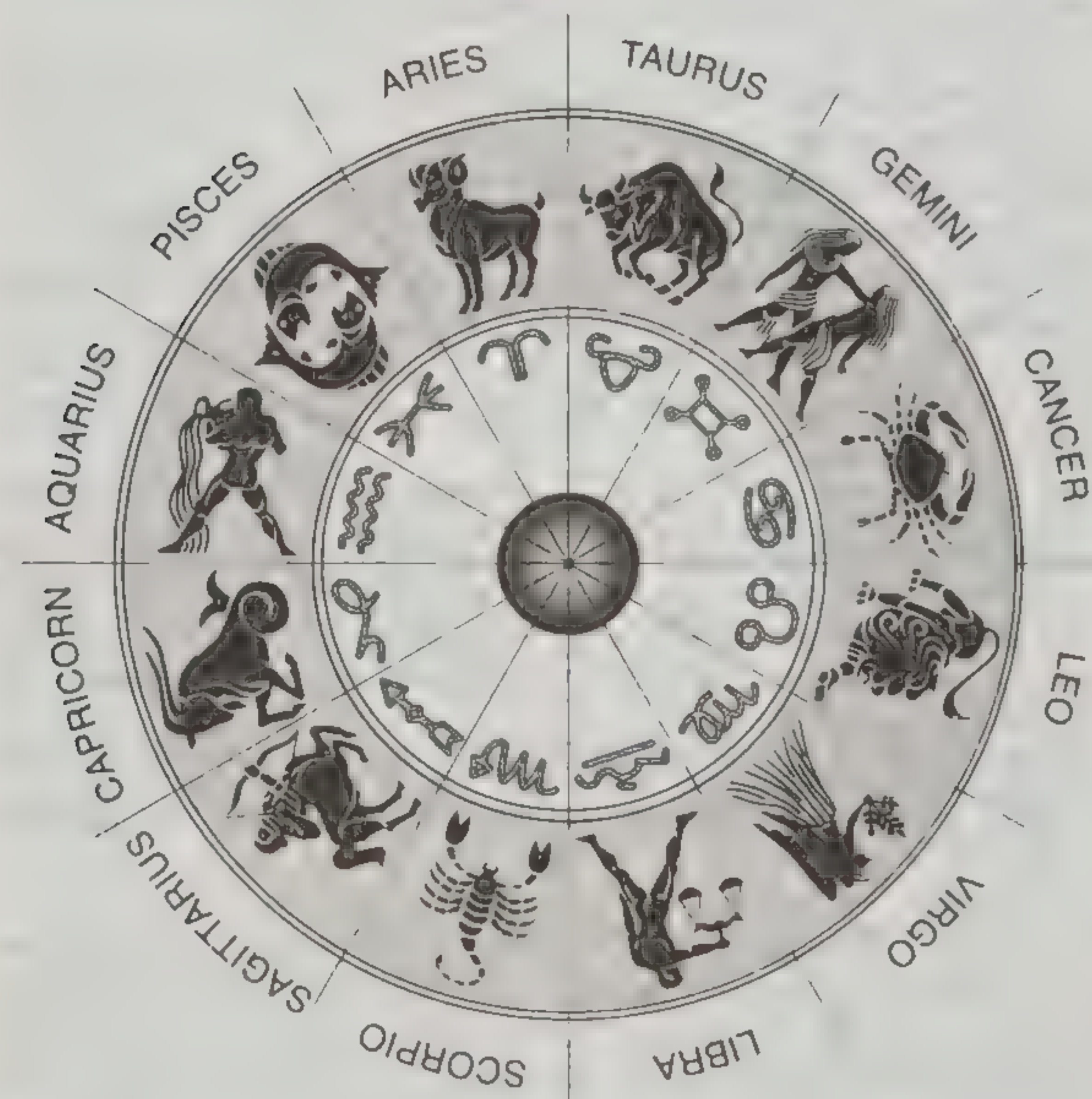
zith-er /'ziðə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count] : a musical instrument that has strings stretched across a shallow wooden box and that is played with your fingers or a pick

zo-di-ac /'zoudiæk/ *noun*

the zodiac : an imaginary area in the sky that the sun, moon, and planets appear to travel through ♠ The zodiac is divided into 12 parts (called star signs or signs of the zodiac) which have special names and symbols and are believed by some people to have influence over people and events.

— **zo-di-a-cal** /zou'dajækəl/ *adj*

zodiac



zom-bie /'zɑ:mbi/ *noun, pl -bies* [count]

1 *informal* : a person who moves very slowly and is not aware of what is happening especially because of being very

tired • If I don't go to bed early I'll be a *zombie* tomorrow. •

His students usually sat there in the classroom like *zombies*.

2 : a dead person who is able to move because of magic according to some religions and in stories, movies, etc. • a scary film about *zombies* = a scary *zombie* film

zon-al /'zounl/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] : relating to or having different areas : divided into zones • We installed a *zonal* heating system in the house.

¹**zone** /'zoun/ *noun, pl zones* [count]

1 : an area that is different from other areas in a particular way • The city is in an earthquake *zone*. [=an area where earthquakes occur] • a pedestrian *zone* [=an area where vehicles are not allowed so that people can walk safely] • a combat/danger/war *zone* • the *euro zone* [=the part of Europe that uses the euro as its monetary unit] • He left the car in a *no-parking zone*. [=an area where parking is not allowed] — see also BUFFER ZONE, COMFORT ZONE, CRUMPLE ZONE, END ZONE, NEUTRAL ZONE, NO-FLY ZONE, RED ZONE, STRIKE ZONE, TIME ZONE, TOWAWAY ZONE, TWILIGHT ZONE

2 : one of the sections in a city or town that is used for a particular purpose • a business/residential *zone* [=district]

²**zone** *verb* **zones**; **zoned**; **zon-ing** [+ *obj*] : to officially say that (a section in a city, town, etc.) can be used for a particular purpose (such as business or housing) • The town council voted to *zone* the area for industrial use. — often used as (be) *zoned* • This area is *zoned* for residential development. • commercially *zoned* land

zone out [phrasal verb] *US, informal* : to stop paying attention because you are tired, bored, etc. • I *zoned out* during the movie. — see also ZONED OUT

zone defense (*US*) also *Brit zone defence* *noun* [noncount] chiefly *US, sports* : a way of playing defense in football, basketball, etc., by having each player on a team guard a certain area of the field or court

zoned out *adj, US, informal* : not thinking clearly or paying attention to what is happening around you because you are tired, drugged, etc. • I was totally *zoned out* and didn't hear what she said. • He was always *zoned out* on drugs back then. — see also *zone out* at ²ZONE

zoning *noun* [noncount] : a system of rules used to control where businesses and homes are built in a city or town • Developers have been frustrated by restrictive *zoning* imposed by state and local governments. • local *zoning* laws • the city's *zoning* board/commission

zonked /'za:ŋkt/ *adj* [more ~; most ~] *informal* : very tired or affected by alcohol or drugs • Chances are that we'll be too *zonked* [=exhausted] from the trip to go out tonight. — often + *out* • After a morning at the beach our kids were *zonked out*. • He was *zonked out* on drugs. • She's becoming known as just another *zonked-out* actress.

ZOO /'zu:/ *noun, pl zoos*

1 [count] : a place where many kinds of animals are kept so that people can see them — see also PETTING ZOO

2 [singular] *informal* : a place, situation, or group that is crowded, loud, and uncontrolled • The sixth grade classroom was a *zoo* after recess. • The supermarket was a real *zoo* on the night before the storm.

zoo-keep-er /'zu:,ki:pə/ *noun, pl -ers* [count] : a person who takes care of the animals in a zoo

zoological park *noun, pl ~ parks* [count] *formal* : ZOO 1 — called also zoological garden

zo-ol-o-gy /zou'ɑ:lədʒi/ *noun* [noncount] : the branch of science that involves the study of animals and animal behavior — **zo-log-i-cal** /zowə'lə:dʒikəl/ *adj* — **zo-ol-o-gist** /zou'ɑ:lədʒist/ *noun, pl -gists* [count]

¹**zoom** /'zu:m/ *verb* **zooms**; **zoomed**; **zoom-ing** [no *obj*]

1 always followed by an adverb or preposition, *informal* **a** : to move quickly • Cars were *zooming* [=speeding] down the highway. • They got in the car and *zoomed* away. • The group of bicycle racers *zoomed* past. **b** : to move quickly upward • a *zooming* rocket • After her first successful cases she *zoomed* to the top of her profession.

2 *informal* : to increase suddenly • Housing sales have *zoomed* in recent months. — often + *up* • Network executives are hoping to see the ratings *zoom up* overnight.

zoom in [phrasal verb] ♠ When a camera or photographer *zooms in*, the lens of the camera is adjusted so that the image seems to be bigger and closer. • The TV cameras *zoomed in*. — often + *on* • The TV cameras *zoomed in on* the winner's face. • I *zoomed in on* her face to show her reaction. — often used figuratively • We're trying to *zoom in*

on the cause of these problems [=to see and understand the exact cause of these problems] before they get worse.

zoom out [phrasal verb] ⇨ When a camera or photographer *zooms out*, the lens of the camera is adjusted so that the image seems to be smaller and farther away. ▪ The camera *zoomed out* to show a wider view of the scene.

zoom noun, pl **zooms**

1 [count] : ZOOM LENS ▪ The camera was equipped with a *zoom*.

2 [singular] *informal* : the loud sound of a vehicle that is moving very fast ▪ The truck went by with a *zoom*.

zoom lens noun, pl ~ **lenses** [count] : a camera lens that can make the size of the image become larger and smaller : a camera lens that can zoom in or zoom out — see picture at CAMERA; compare TELEPHOTO LENS

zoot suit /'zu:t-/ noun, pl ~ **suits** [count] : a type of suit for men that was worn in the 1940s and that consisted of a long jacket with wide shoulders and pants that were wide at the top and narrow at the bottom

Zo-ro-as-tri-an-ism /,zɒrə'wæstrijə,nɪzəm/ noun [non-count] : a religion founded by the Persian prophet Zoroaster

– **Zo-ro-as-tri-an** /,zɒrə'wæstrijən/ adj – **Zoroastrian** noun, pl **-ans** [count]

zuc-chi-ni /zu'ki:ni/ noun, pl **zucchini** or **zuc-chi-nis** [count, noncount] US : a dark green vegetable that is long and smooth and that has soft skin which can be eaten — called also (*Brit*) *courgette*; see color picture on page C4

Zu-lu /'zu:,lu:/ noun, pl **-lus**

1 [count] : a member of a group of people living mostly in South Africa

2 [noncount] : the language of the Zulu people

zwie-back /'zwaɪ,bæk, Brit 'zwi:,bæk/ noun [noncount] US : a dry, hard bread that is eaten especially by young children

zy-de-co /'zaɪdə,kou/ noun [noncount] : a type of lively popular music originally from southern Louisiana

zy-gote /'zaɪ,gout/ noun, pl **-gotes** [count] biology : a cell that is formed when an egg and a sperm combine : a fertilized egg



Color Art

Contents

Colors	C1
Vegetables	C4
Fruits	C5
Plants	C6
Landscapes	C7
Fish and Shellfish	C8
Birds	C9
Insects and Arachnids	C10
Gems and Jewelry	C11
Patterns	C12
Clothing	C12

Colors

A single color may be given different names by different people, and a single color name may be used for a range of colors that are similar to each other. These three pages show names that are commonly used for the colors shown.



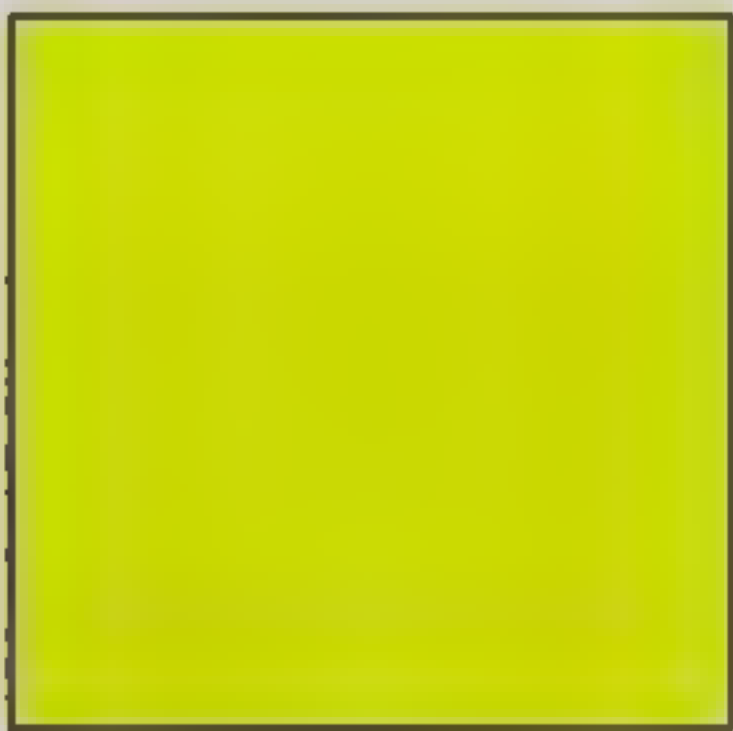
black



white



gray (US),
grey (chiefly Brit)



yellow



blue



red



green



orange



purple



brown

C2

Colors



cream



ivory



taupe



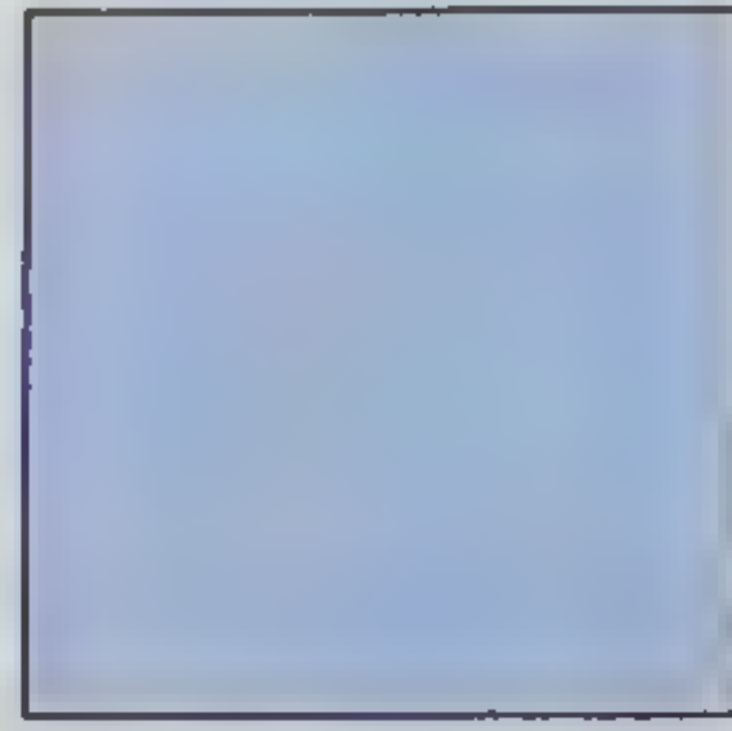
slate gray (US),
slate grey (chiefly Brit)



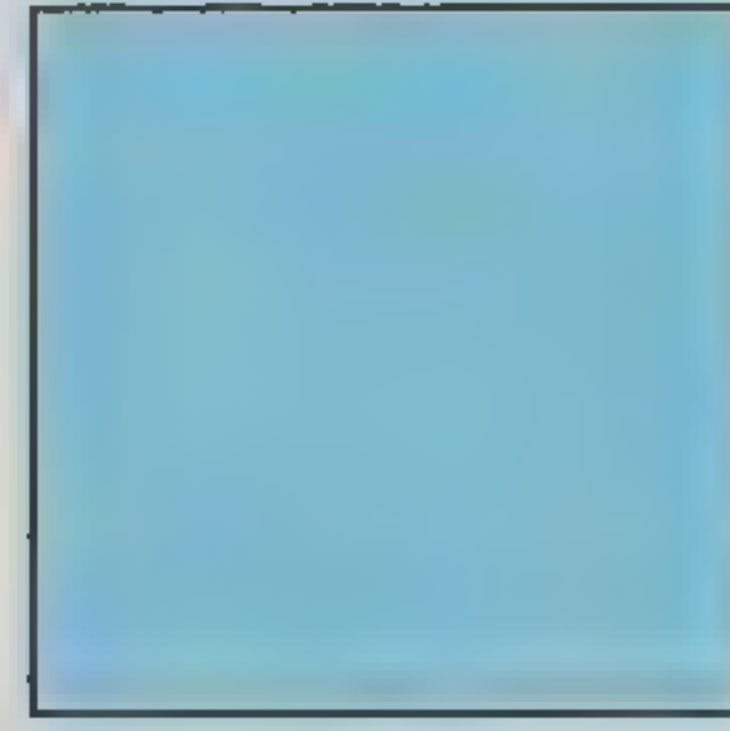
charcoal



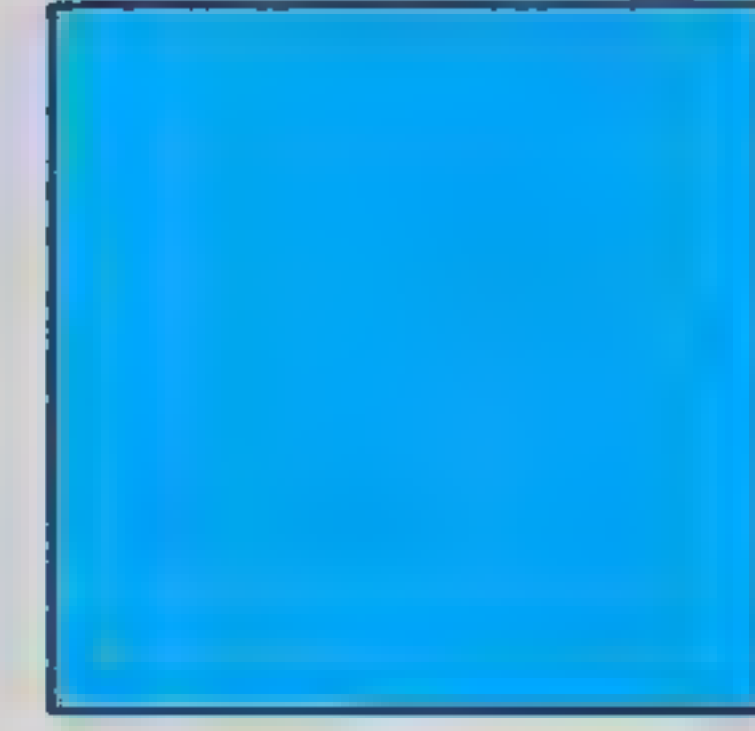
powder blue



sky blue



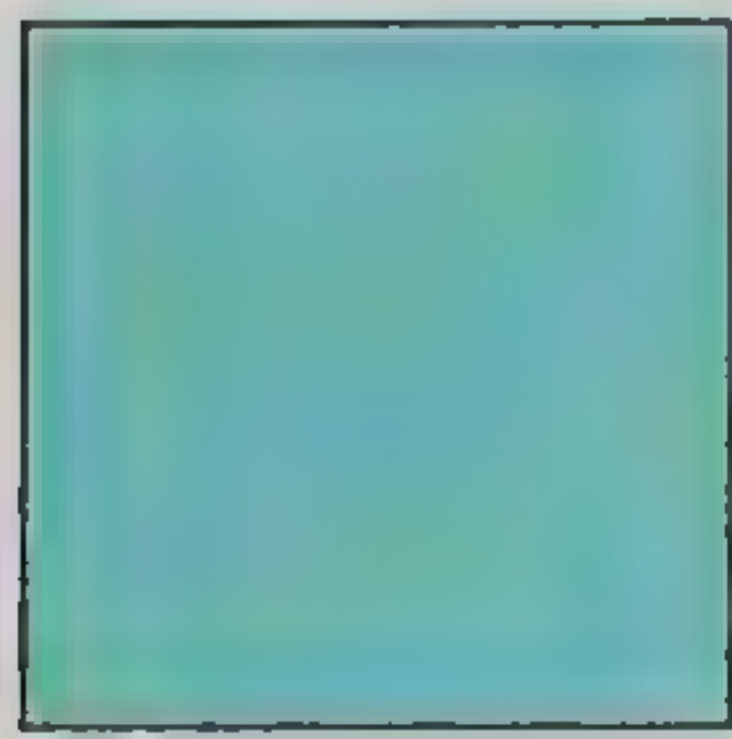
aqua



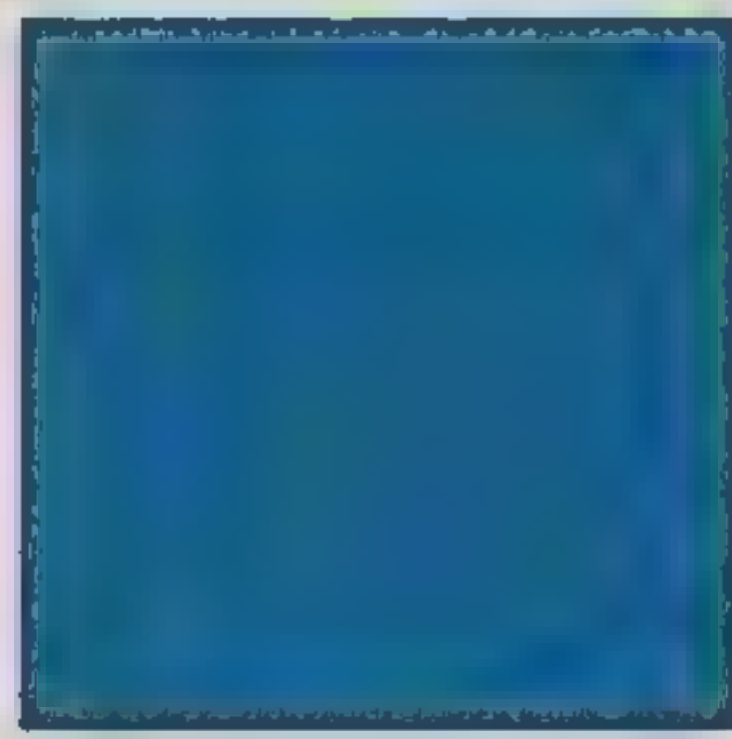
cyan



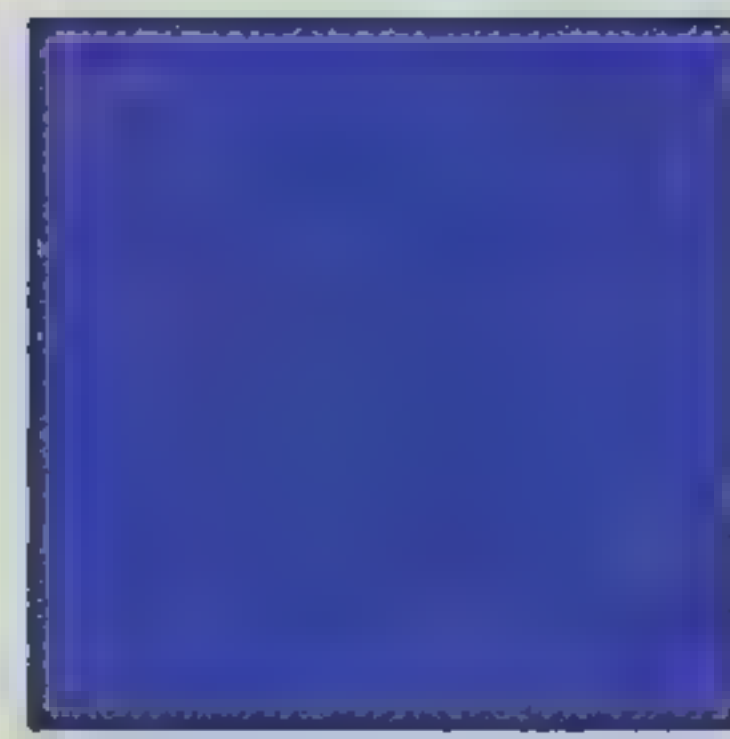
cobalt blue



turquoise



teal, teal blue



royal blue



navy blue, navy



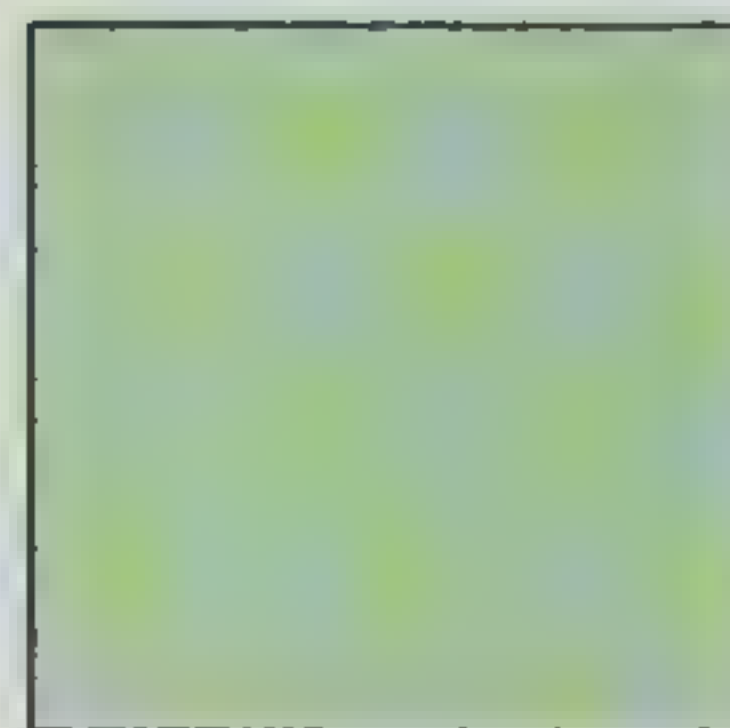
indigo



slate blue



jade, jade green



sea green



emerald,
emerald green



lime green



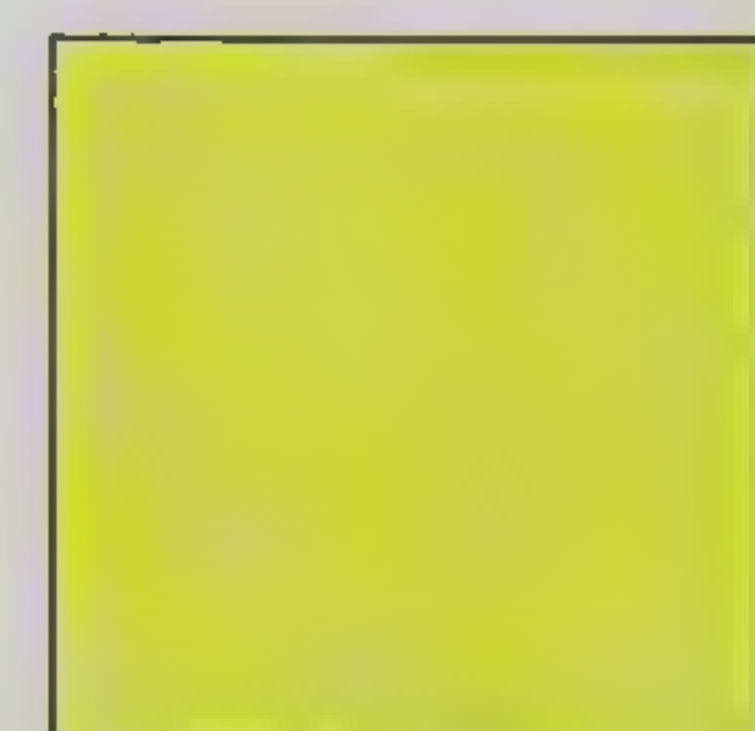
pea green



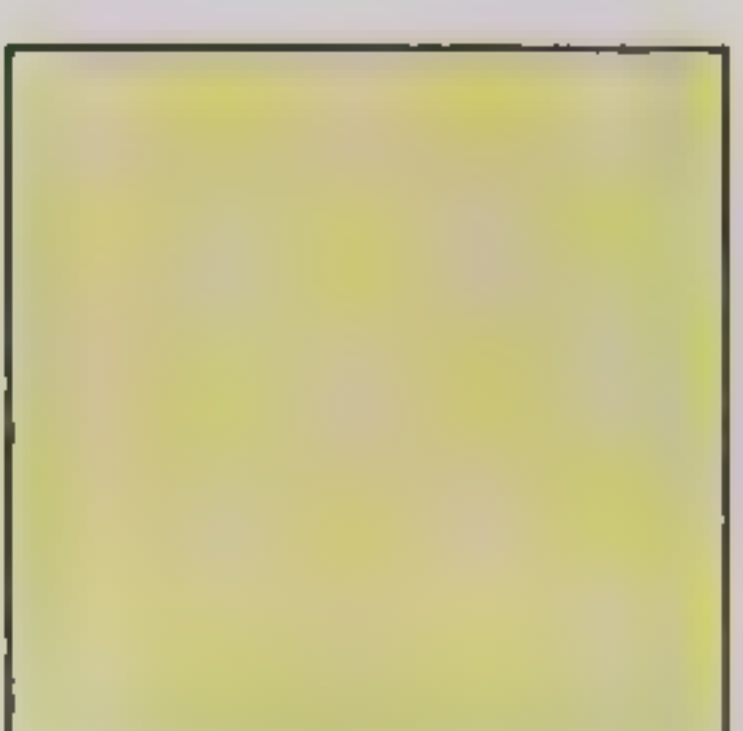
olive, olive green



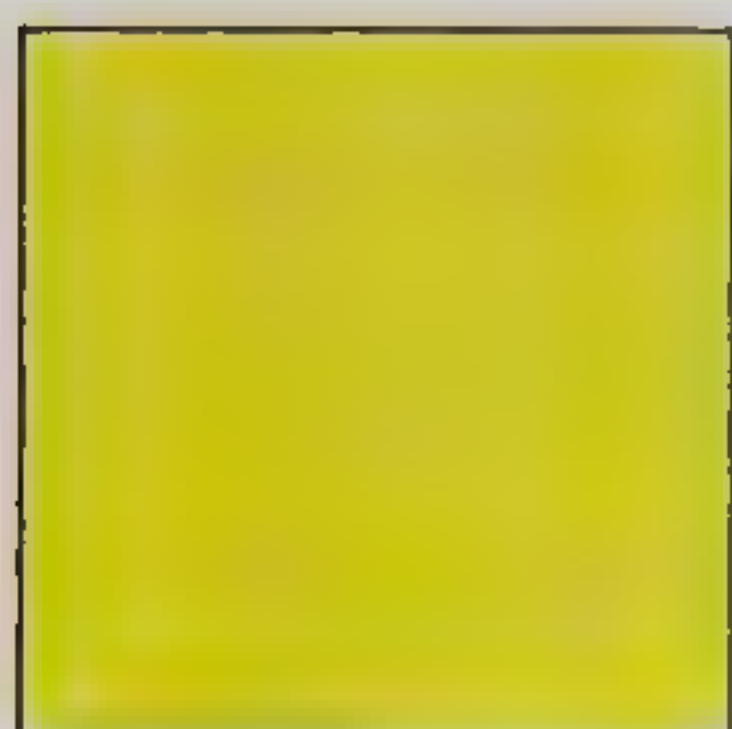
forest green (chiefly US),
bottle green (Brit)



lemon,
lemon yellow



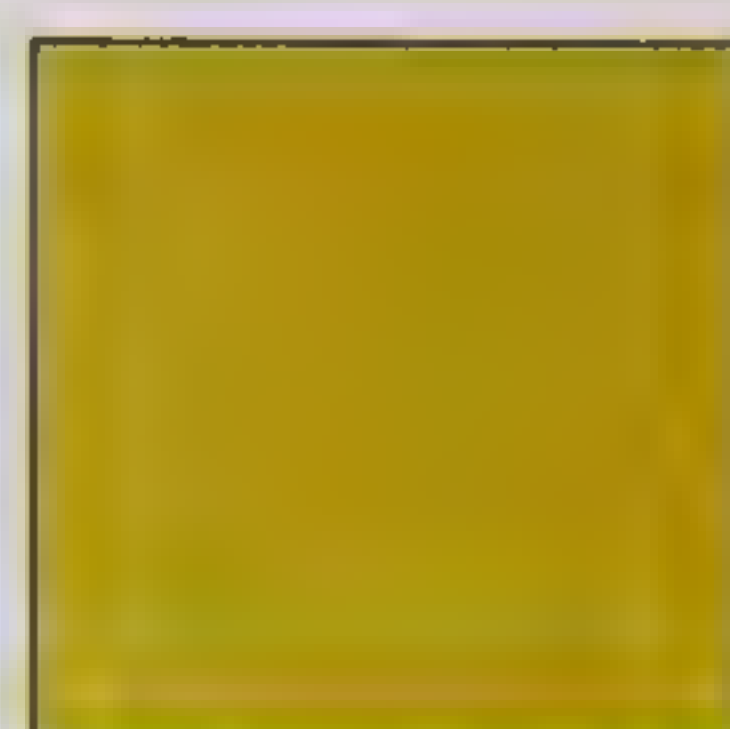
buff



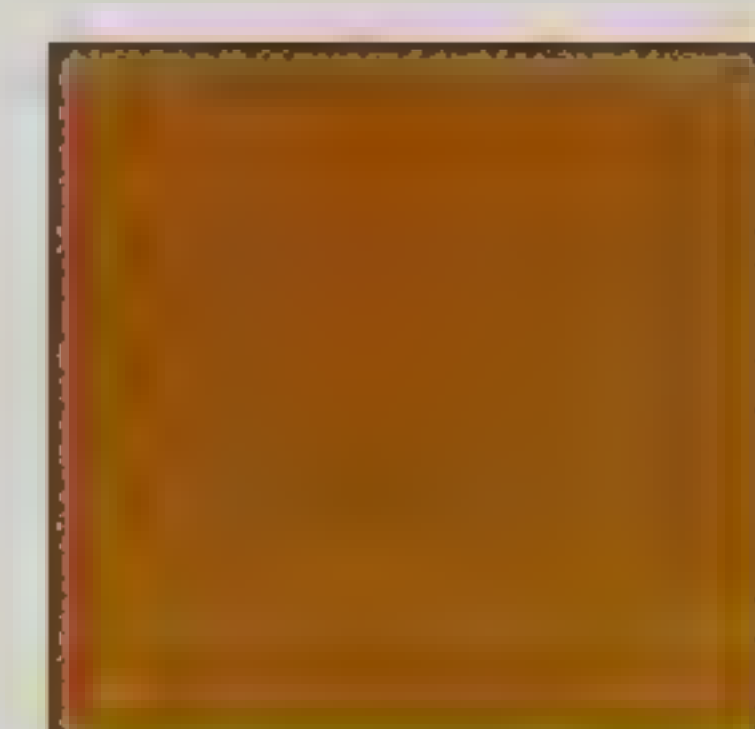
gold



amber



mustard



copper



bronze

Colors

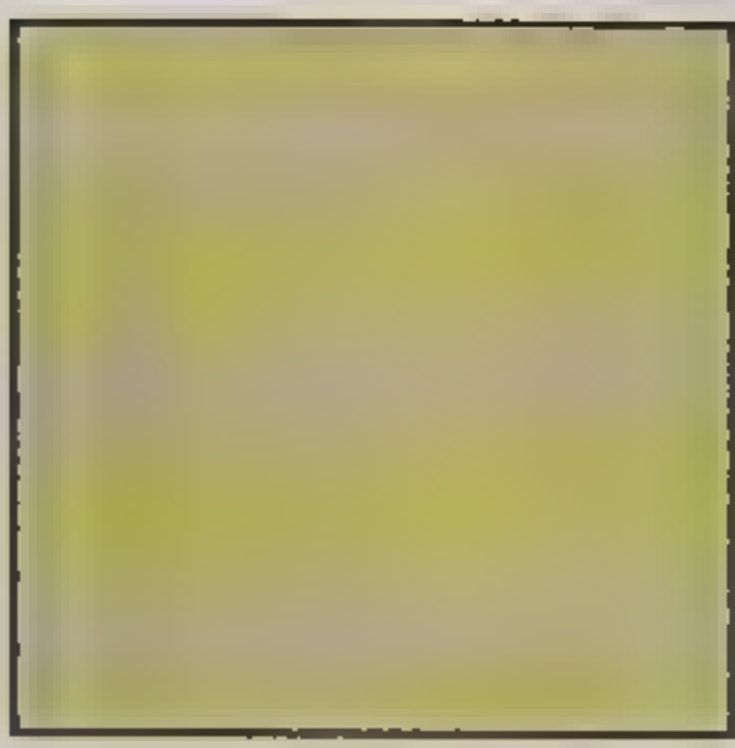
C3



beige



tan



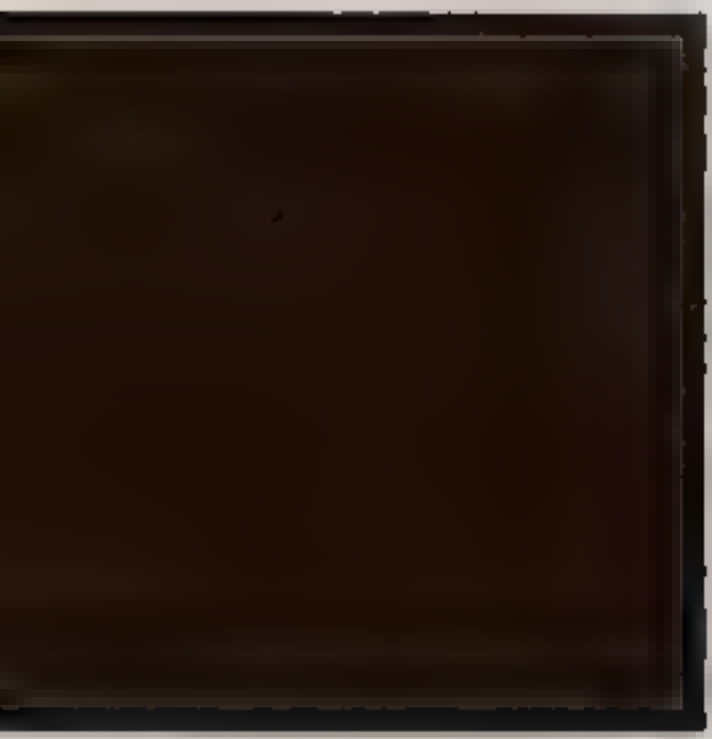
khaki



russet



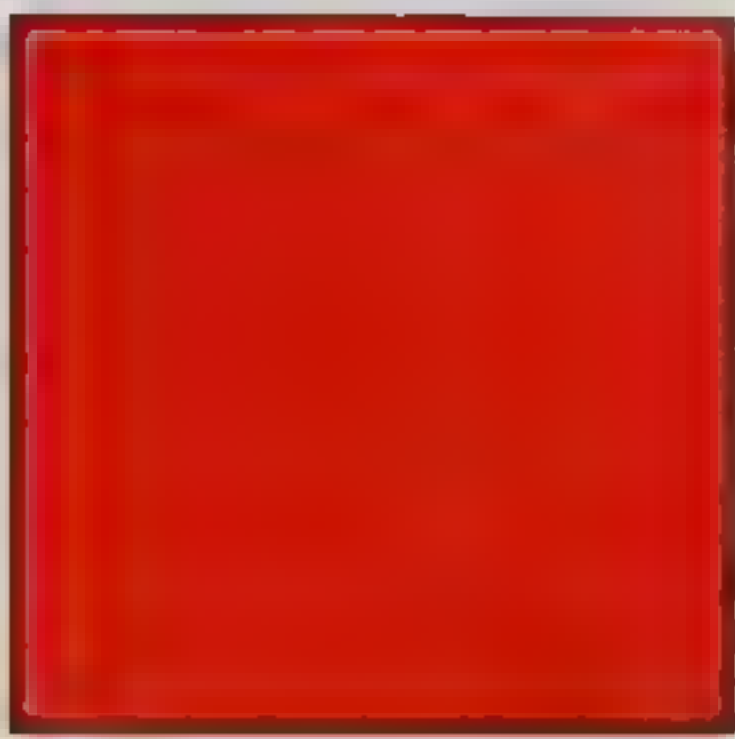
mahogany



chocolate,
chocolate brown



cherry,
cherry red



scarlet



ruby



crimson



brick red



maroon



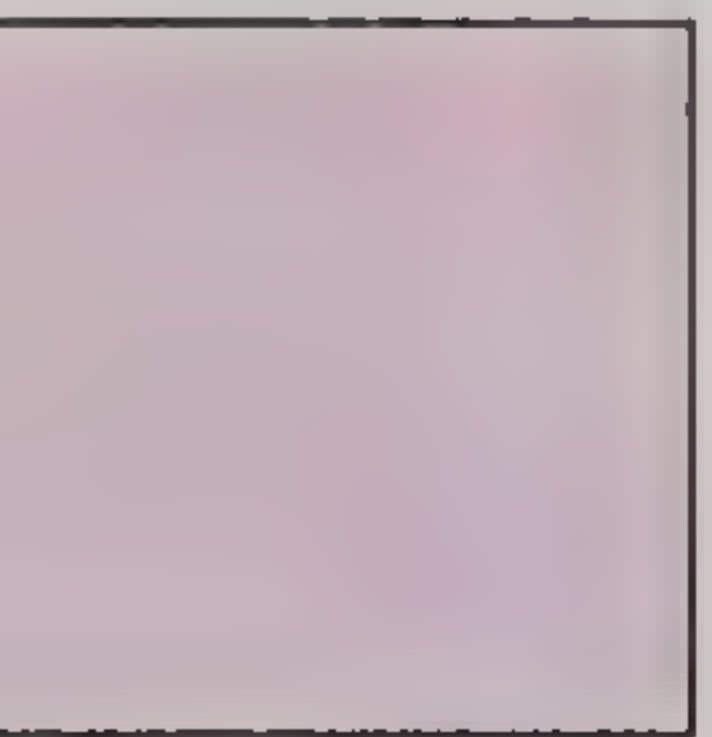
burgundy



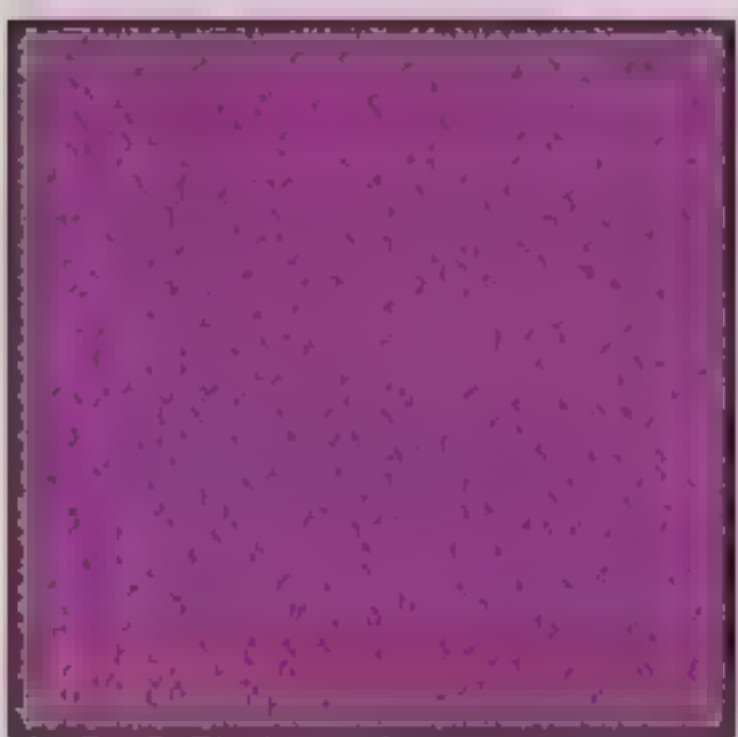
magenta



lavender



lilac



amethyst



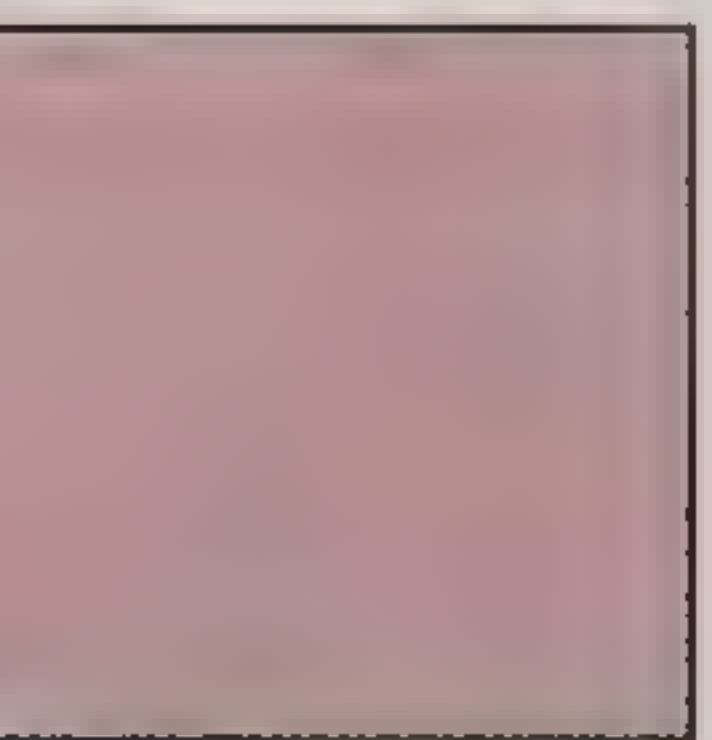
violet



fuchsia



plum



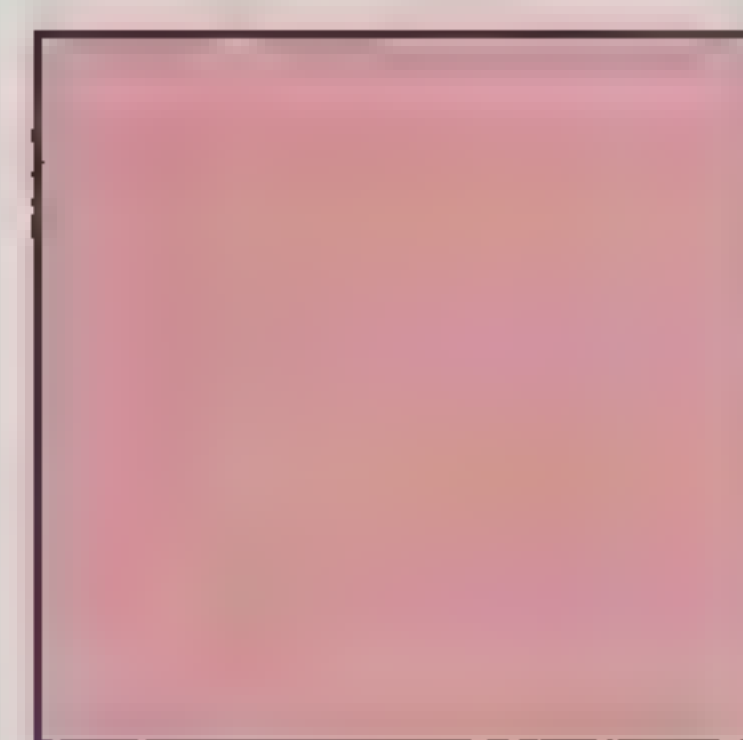
mauve



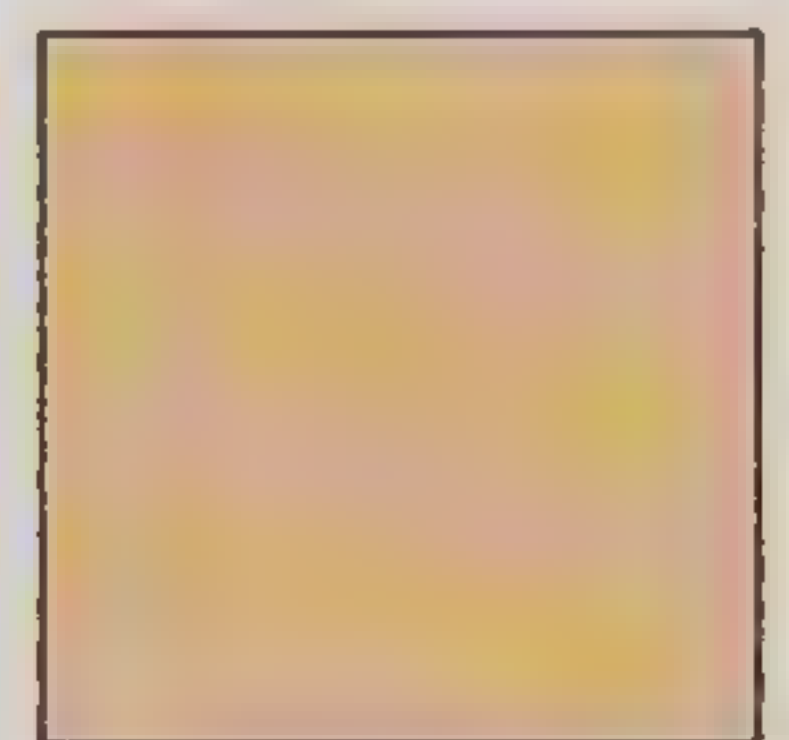
pink



rose



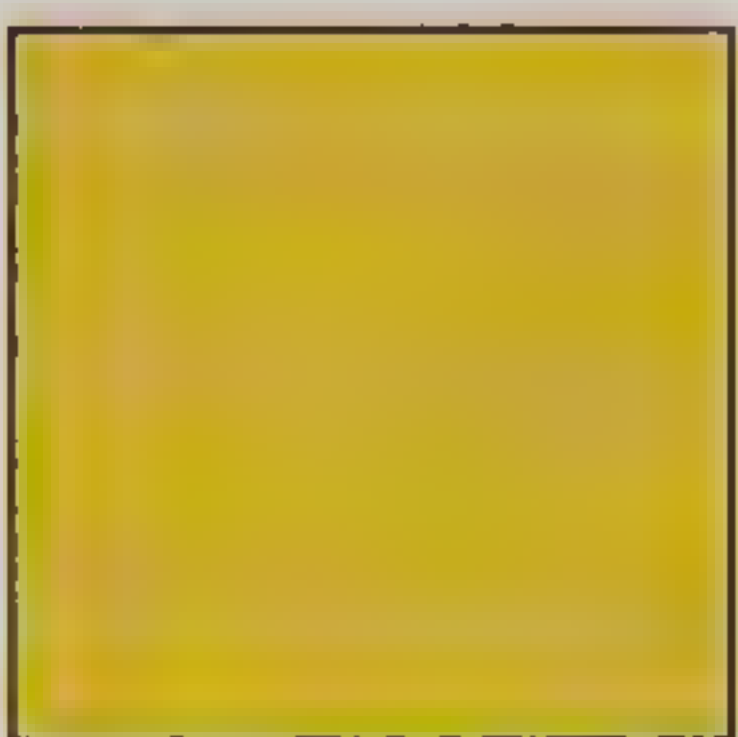
salmon pink,
salmon



peach



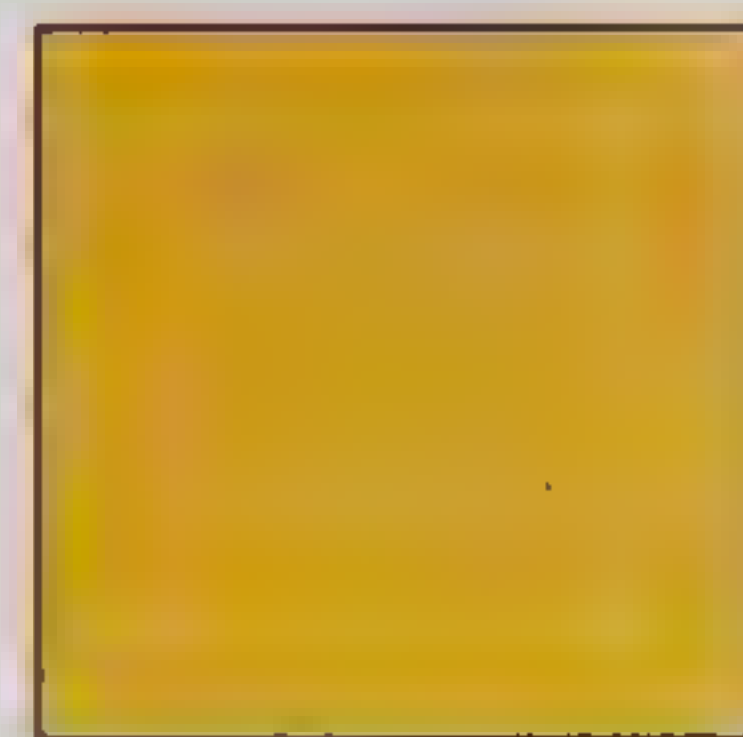
coral



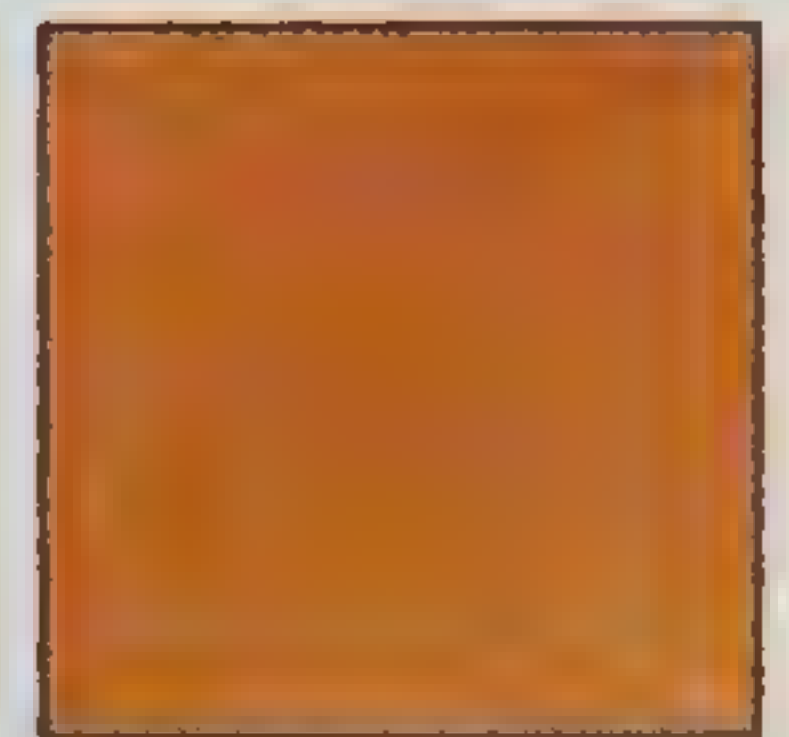
saffron



vermilion



tangerine



terra-cotta

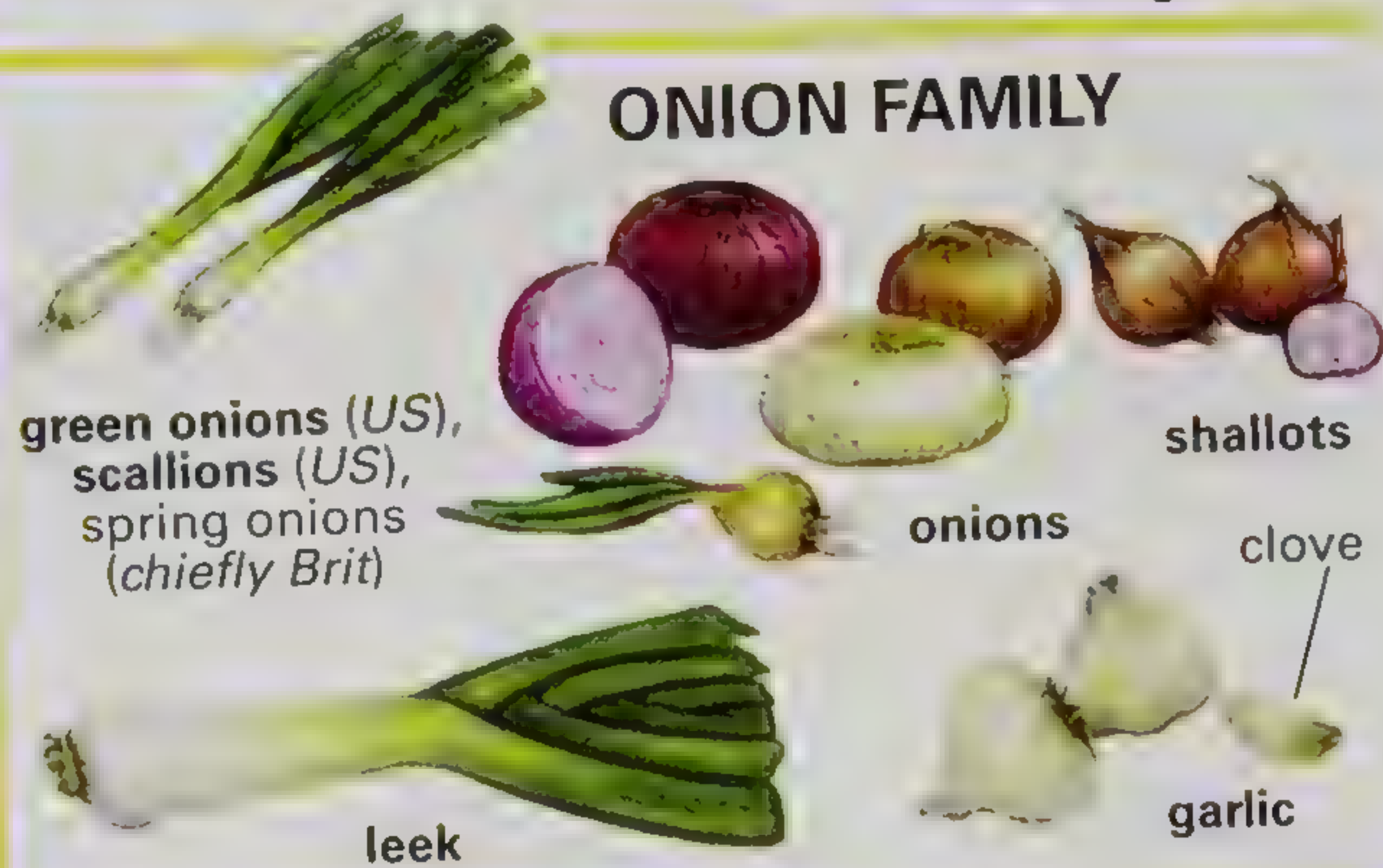
Vegetables



LEAFY GREENS



ONION FAMILY



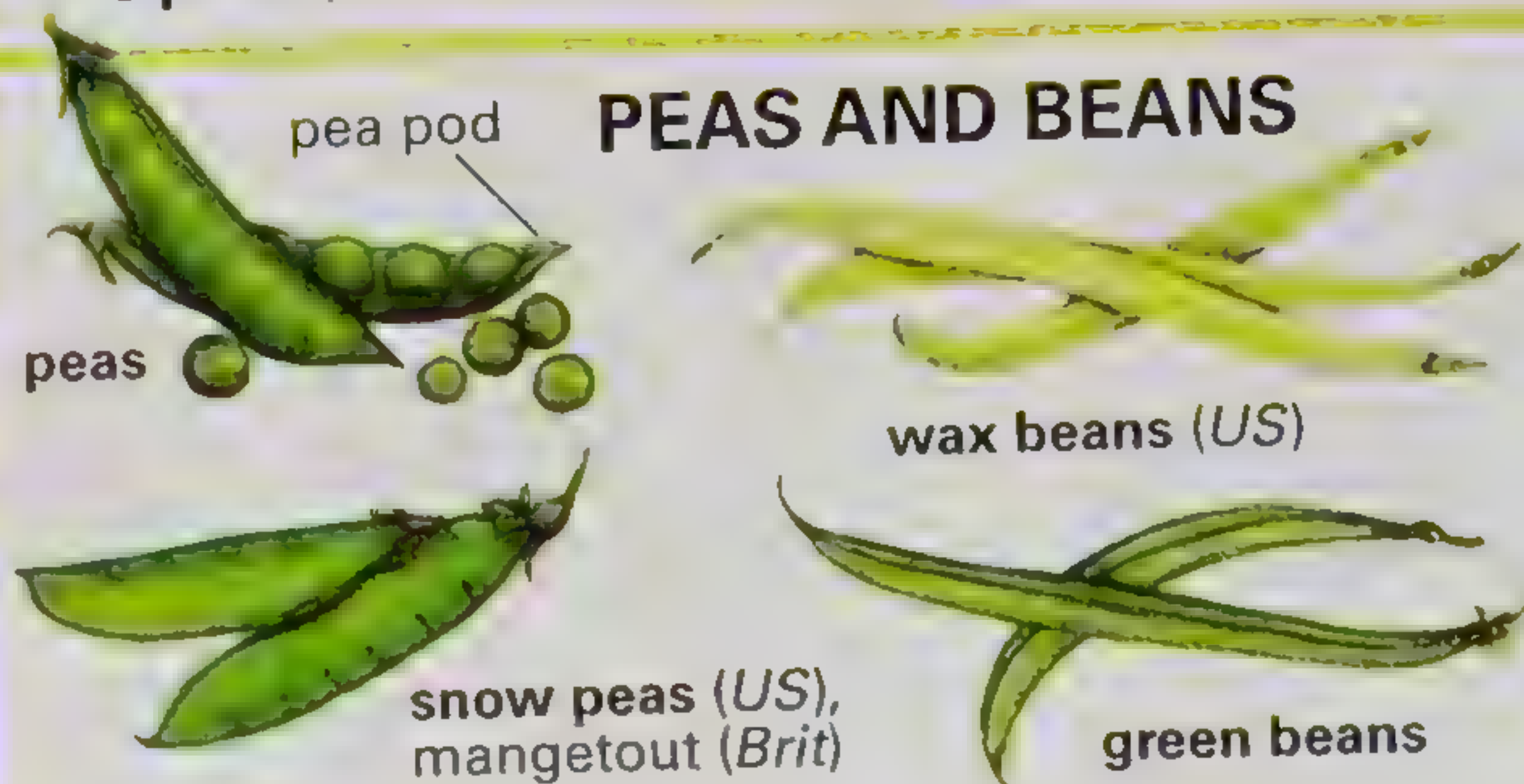
ROOT VEGETABLES



SQUASH



PEAS AND BEANS





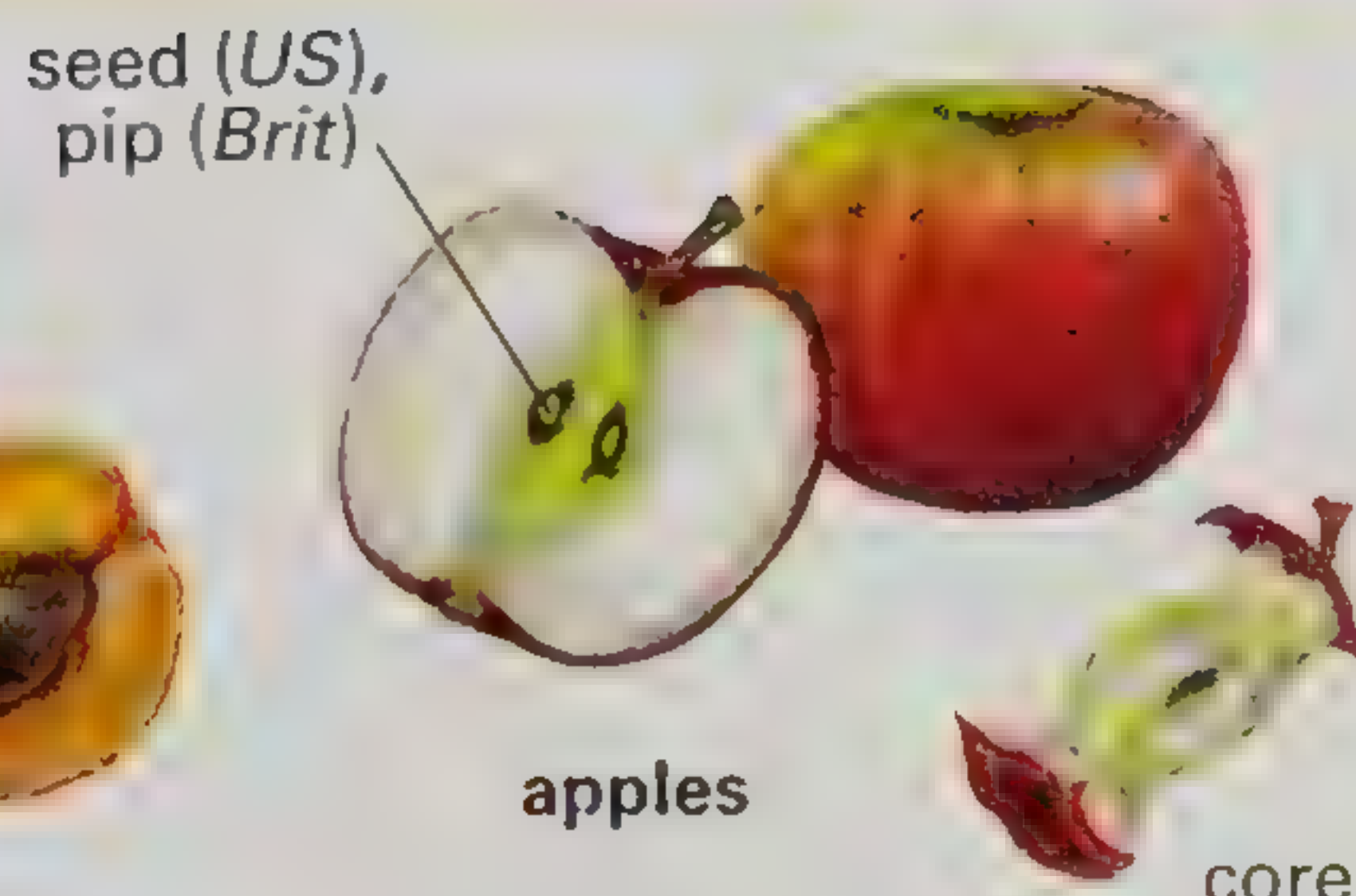
grapes



peaches



apricots



apples



plums



avocados



pears

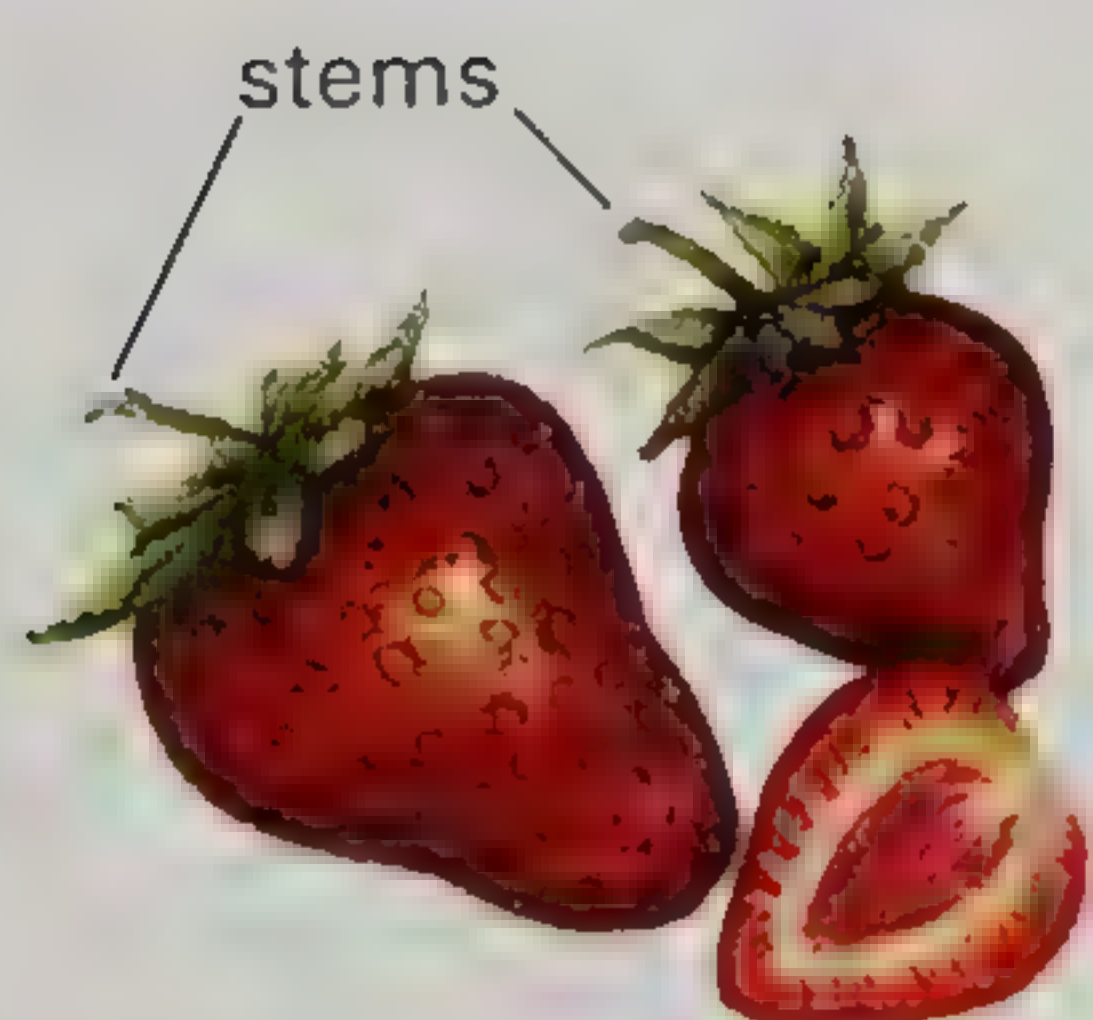


cherries



figs

BERRIES



strawberries



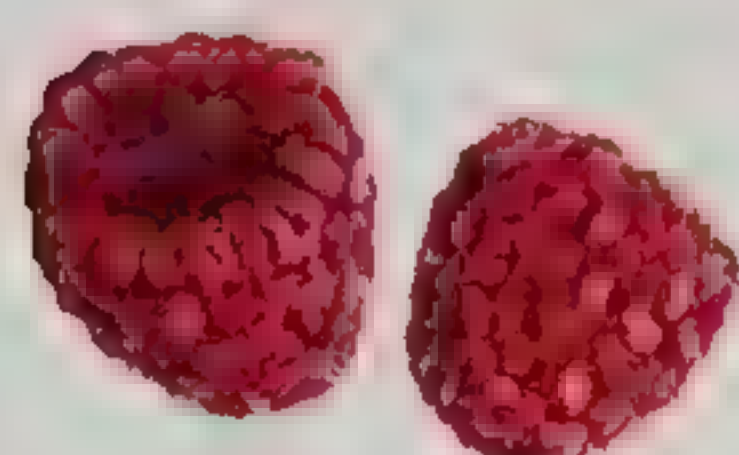
blueberries



gooseberries



cranberries



raspberries



blackberries

TROPICAL FRUIT



pineapple



kiwifruit,
kiwis



mangoes



bunch of
bananas



coconuts



banana

CITRUS FRUIT



grapefruit



lemons

segments,
sections (US)



limes



oranges

MELONS



watermelon



honeydew melon

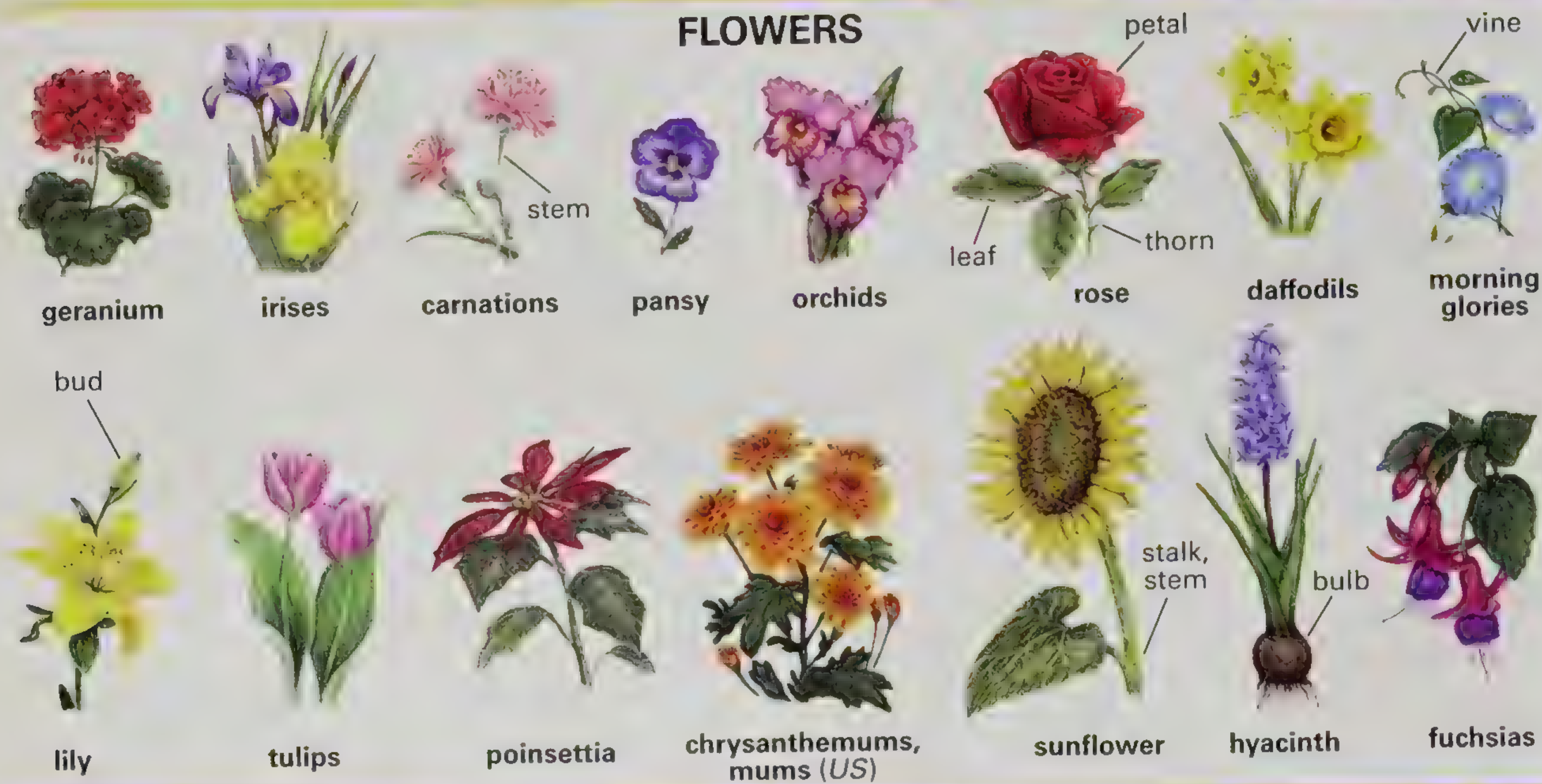
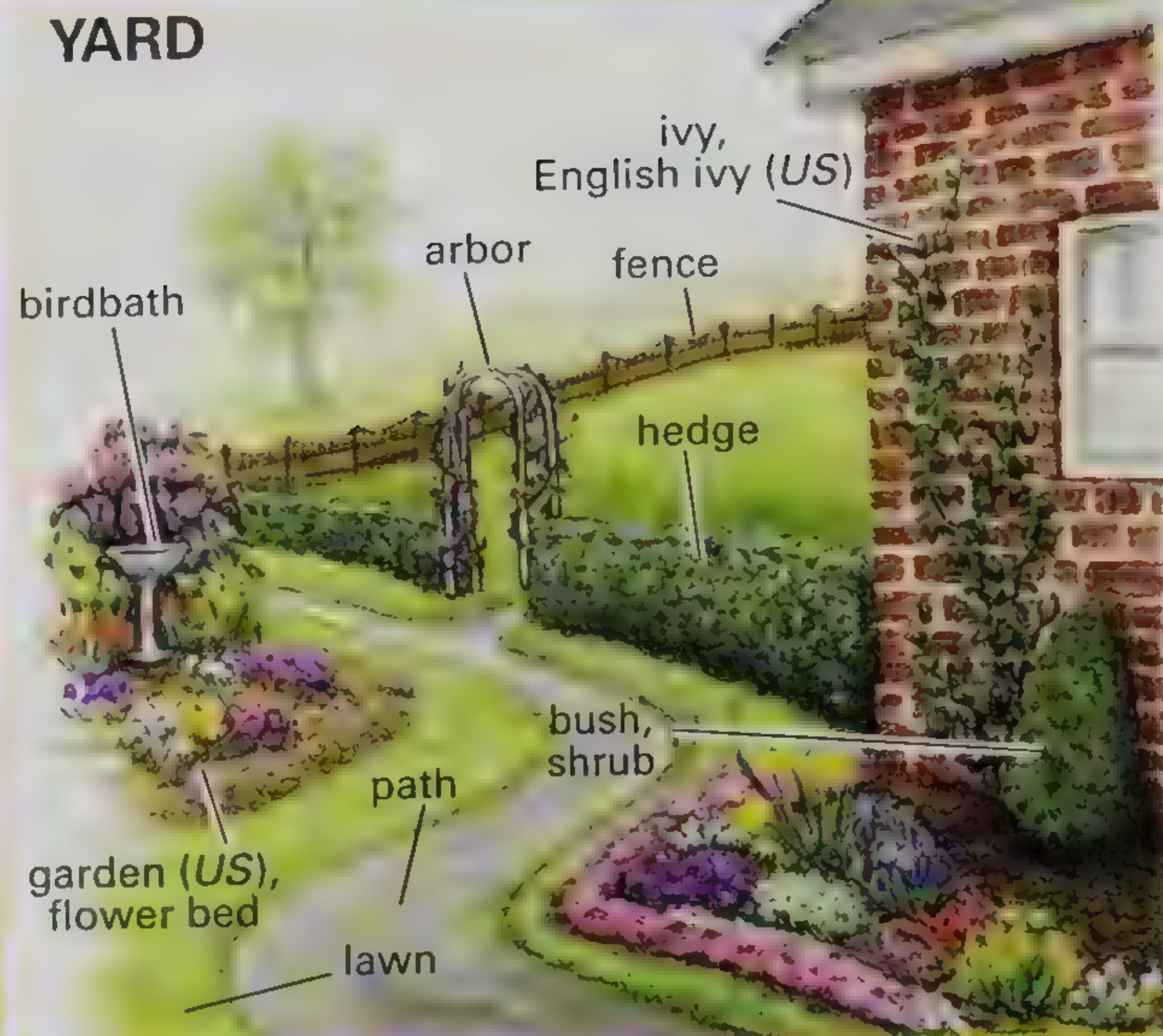
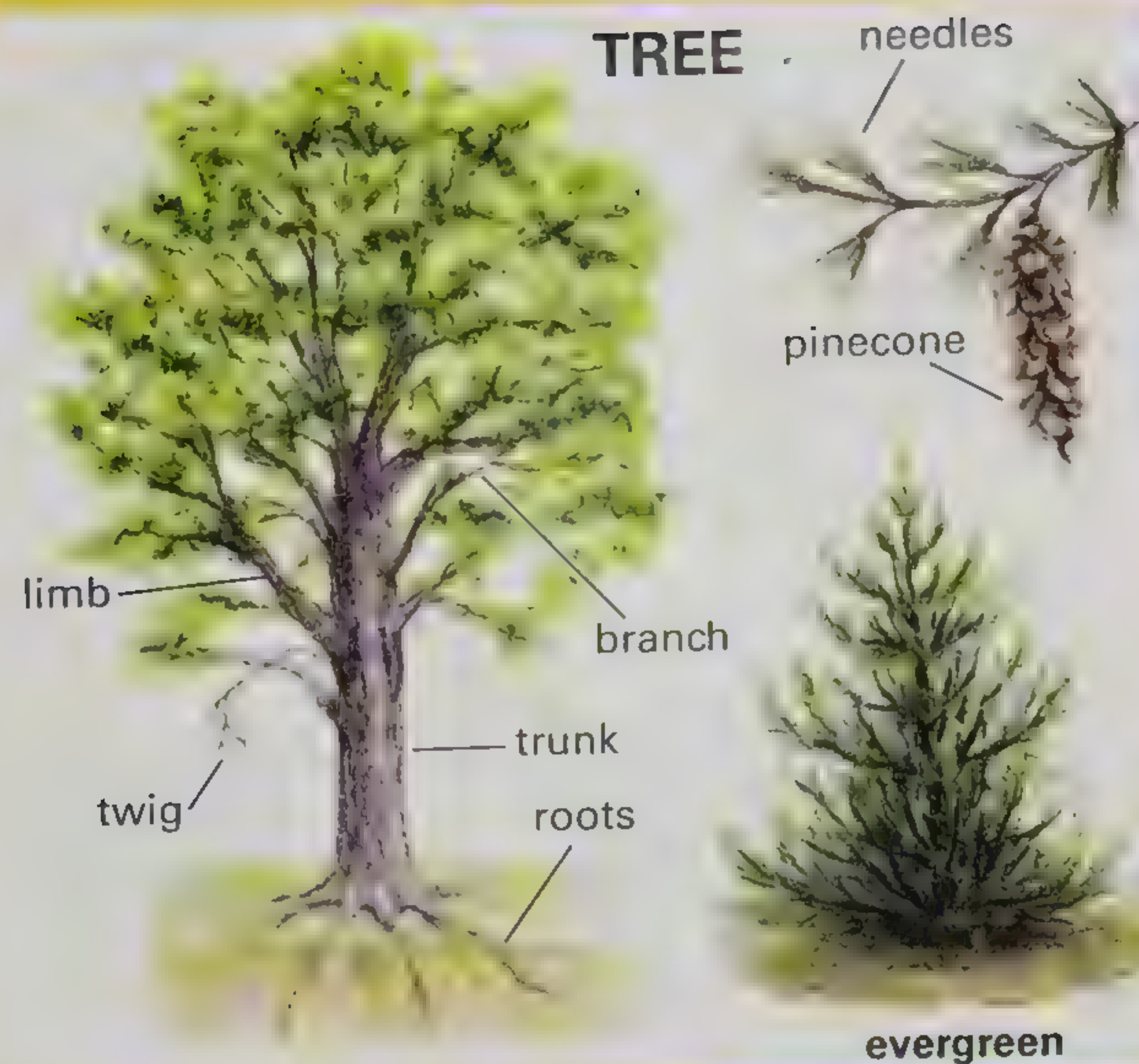


slices

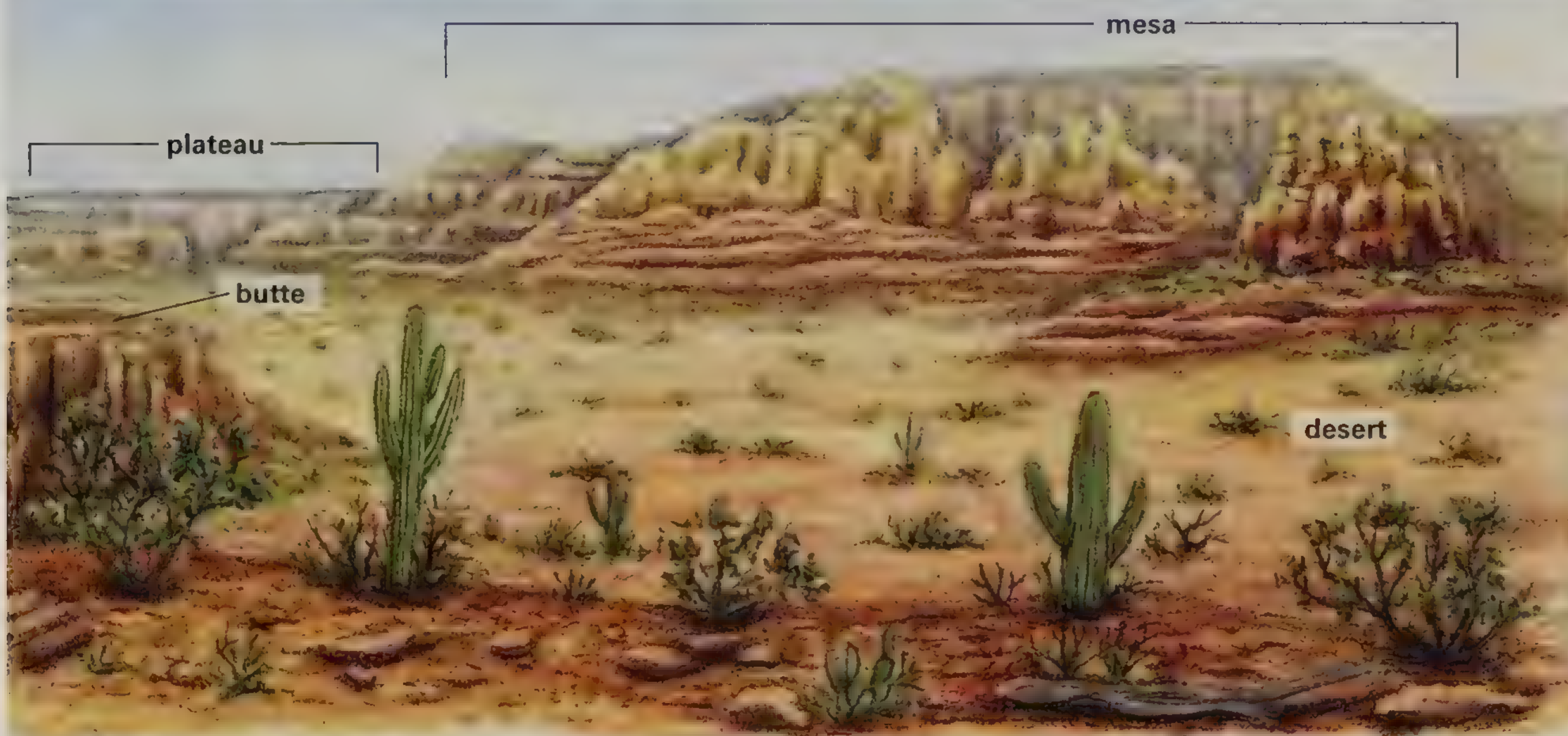
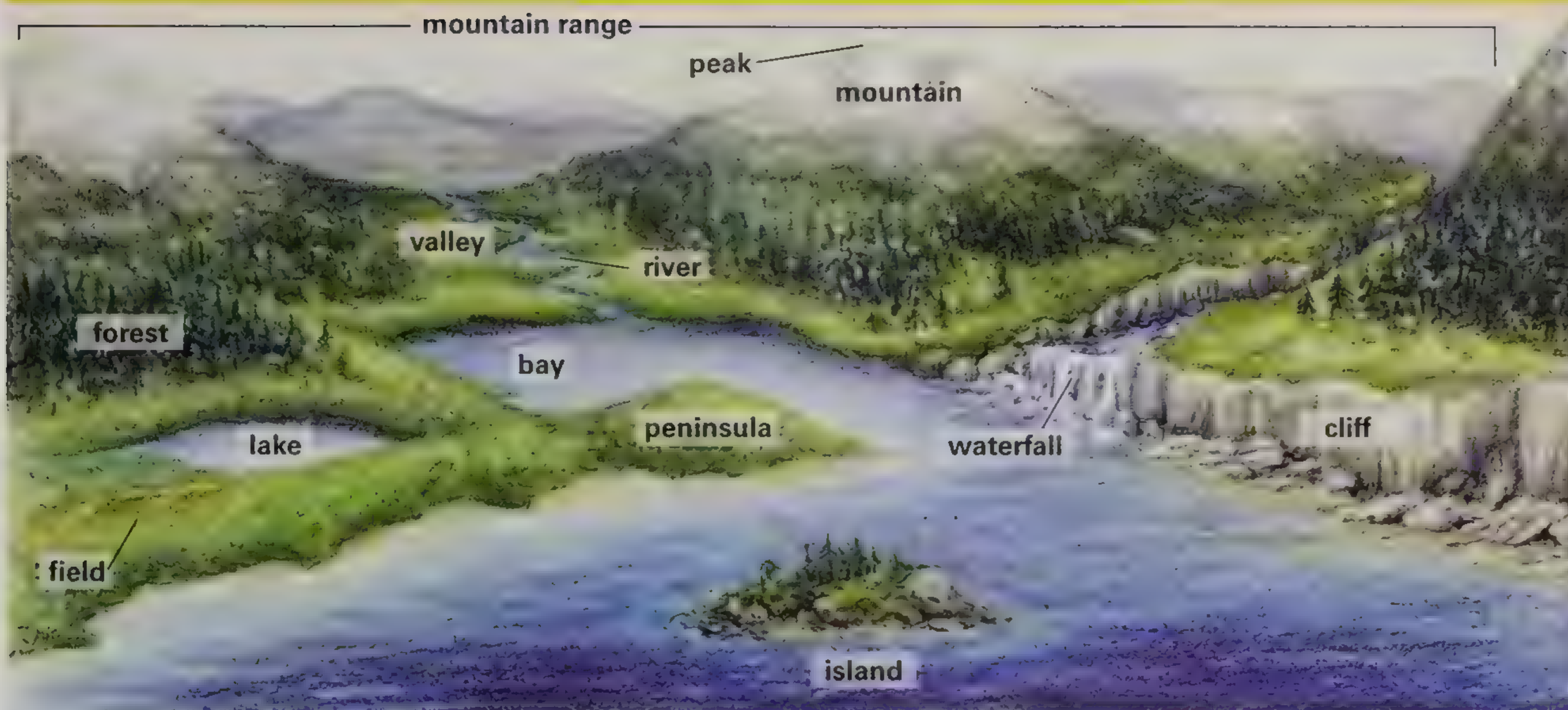


cantaloupe

Plants



Landscapes



FISH



piranha



bass



bluefish



eel



mackerel



haddock



trout



salmon



flounder



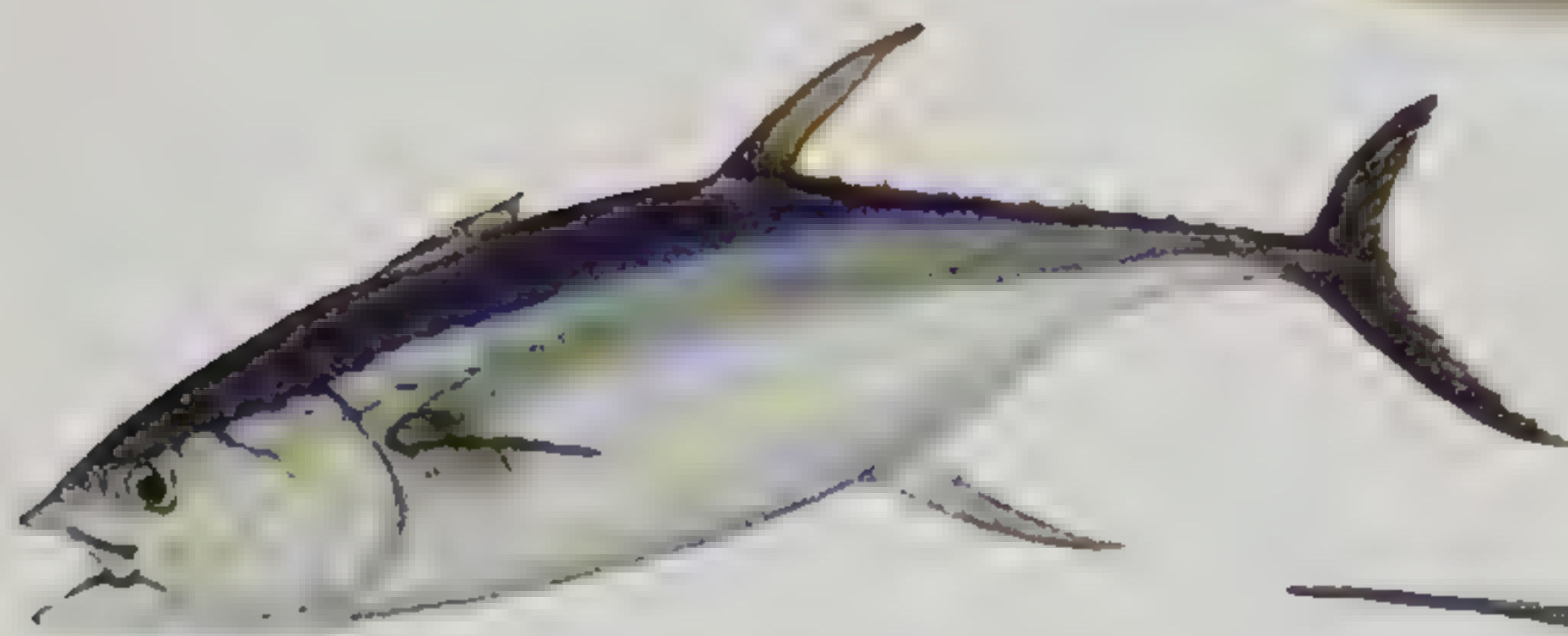
catfish



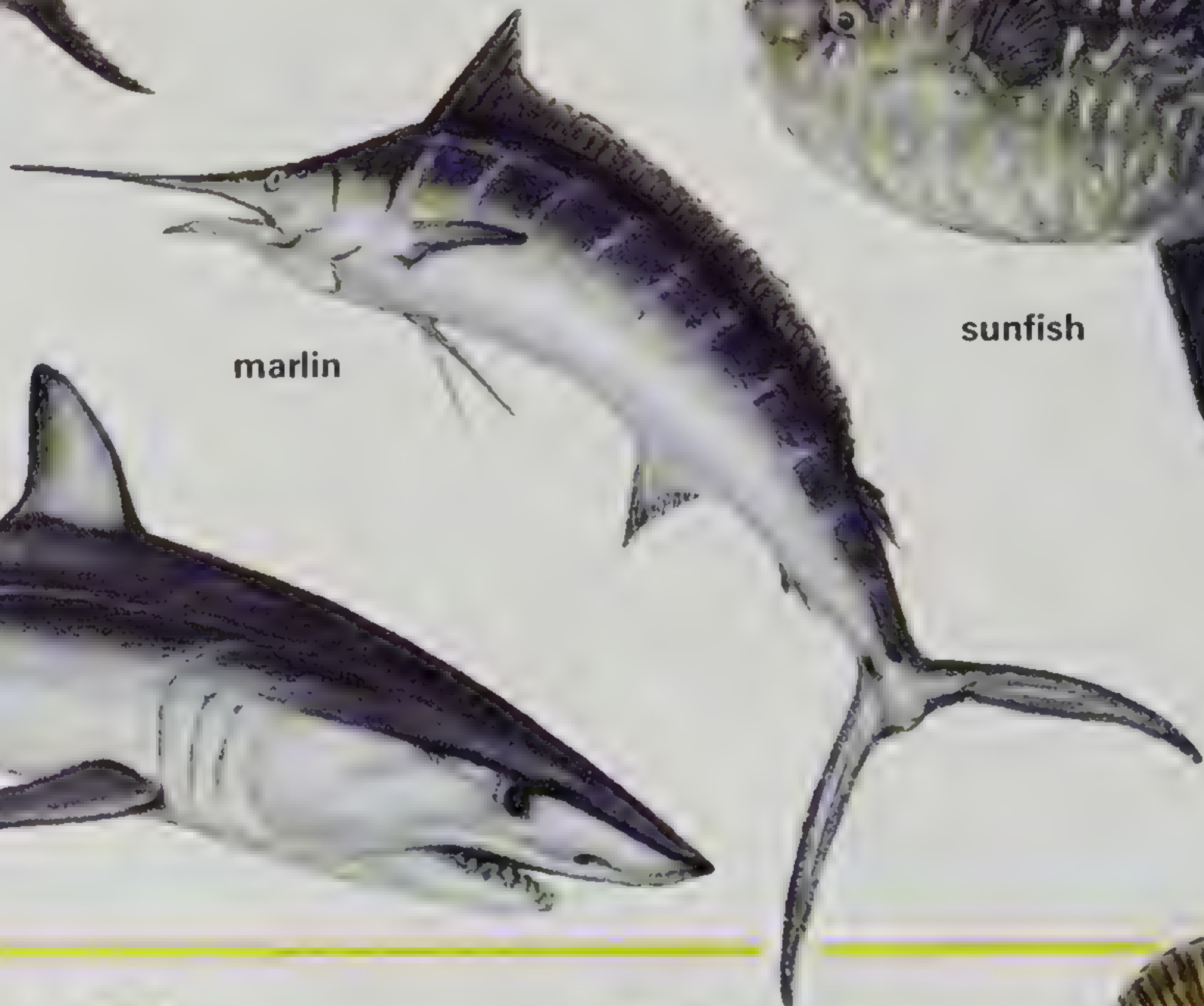
ray



barracuda



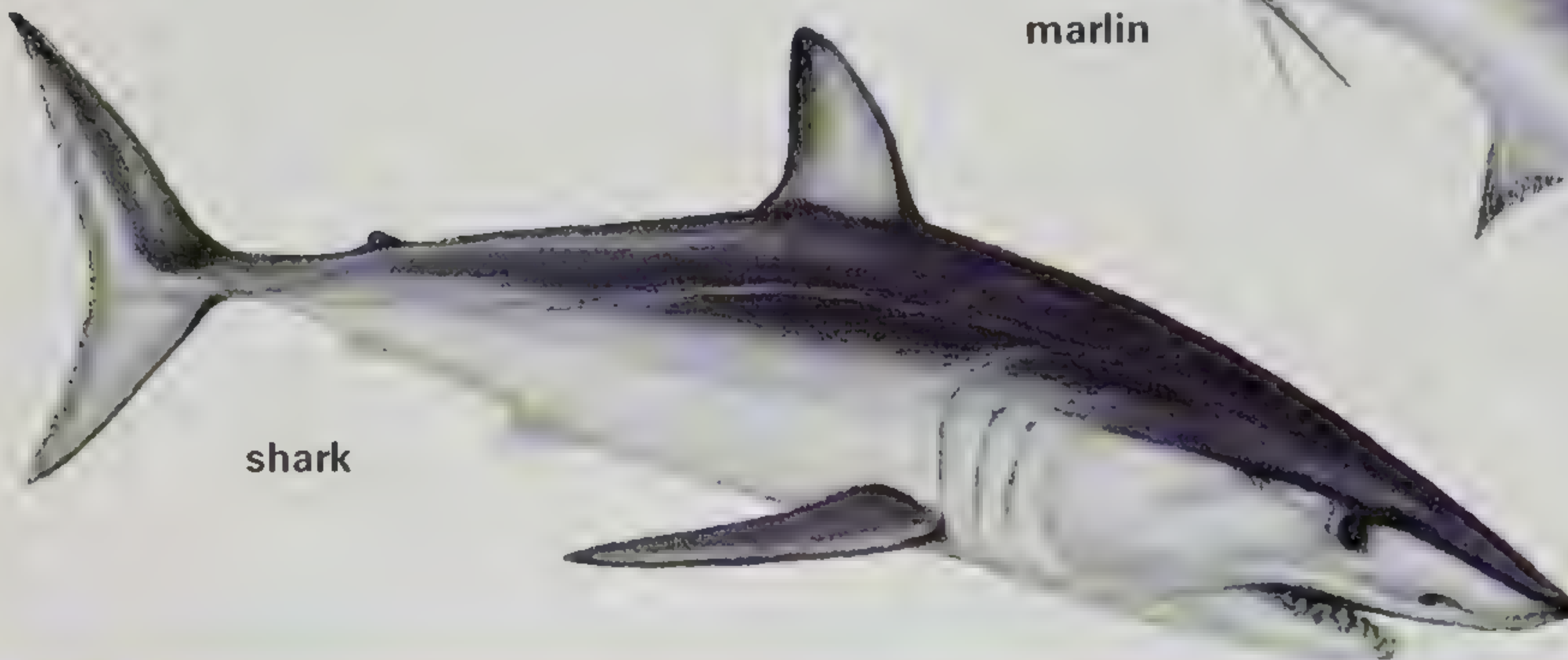
tuna



marlin



sunfish



shark

SHELLFISH



shrimp,
prawn (Brit)



crayfish,
crawfish (US)



mussels



clam



scallop



crab



oyster



lobster



hummingbird



chickadee



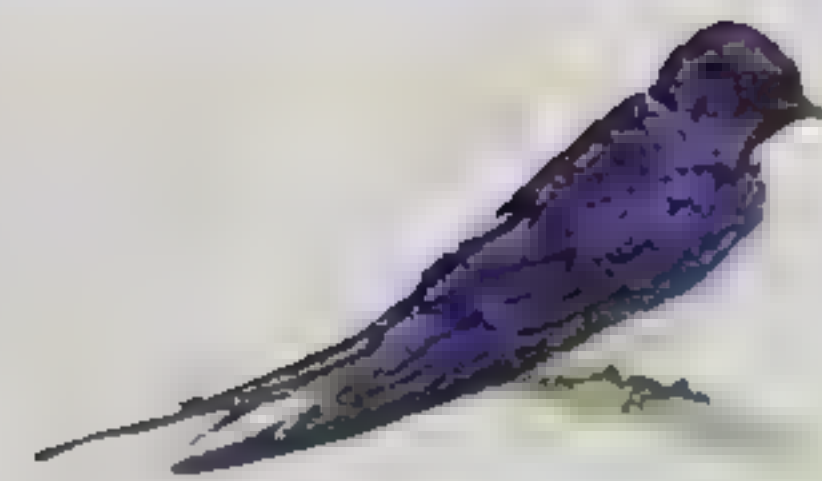
wren



sparrow



goldfinch



swallow



bluebird



cardinal



starling



mockingbird



robin



blue jay



crow



pigeon



parrot



seagull, gull



woodpecker



hawk



pheasant



duck (mallard)



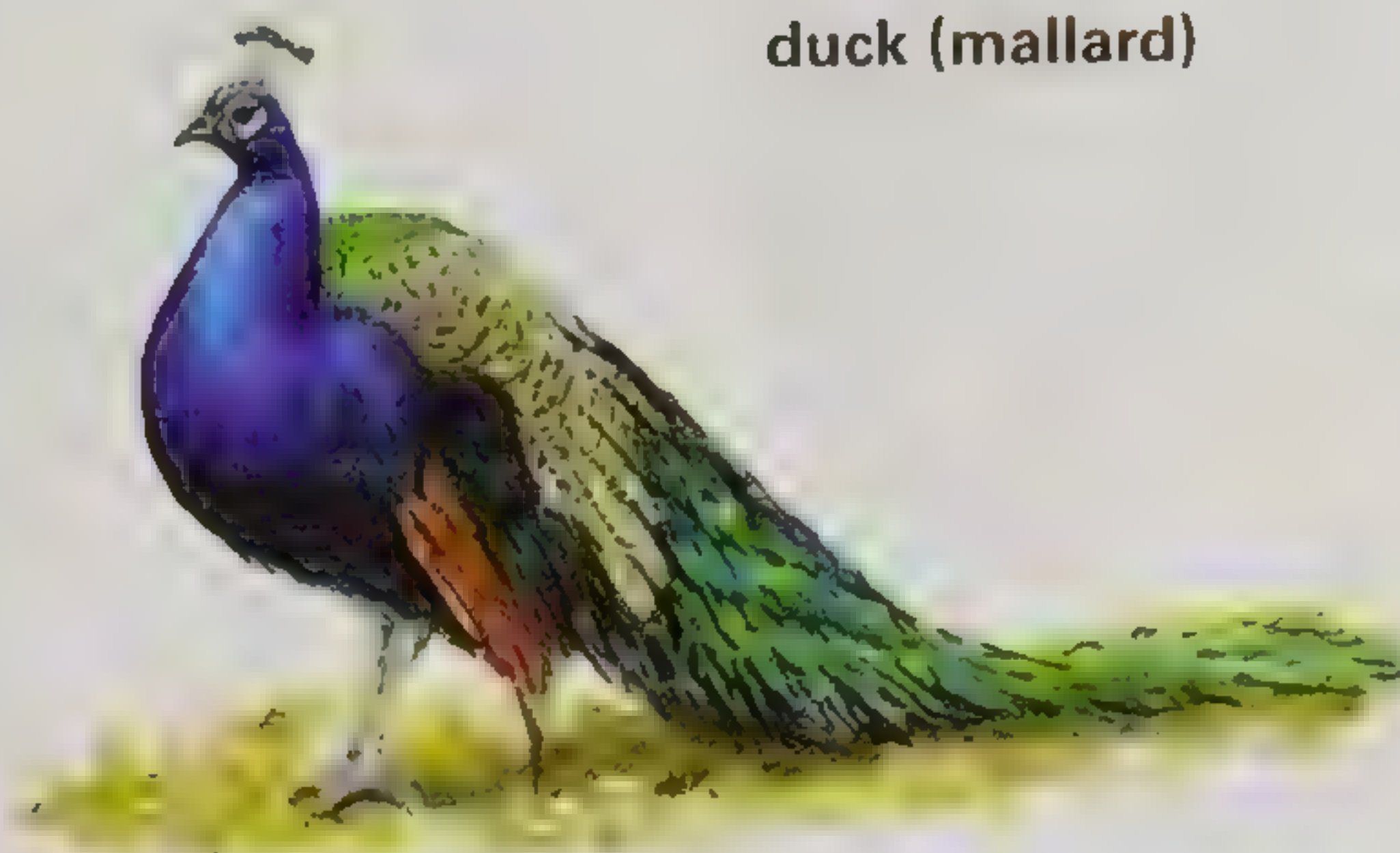
owl



bald eagle



vulture



peacock



goose (Canada goose)



pelican



flamingo



heron



turkey

Insects and Arachnids

INSECTS



mosquito



termite



ant



Japanese beetle



ladybug (US),
ladybird (Brit)



fly



mayfly



earwig



cockroach,
roach (US)



grasshopper



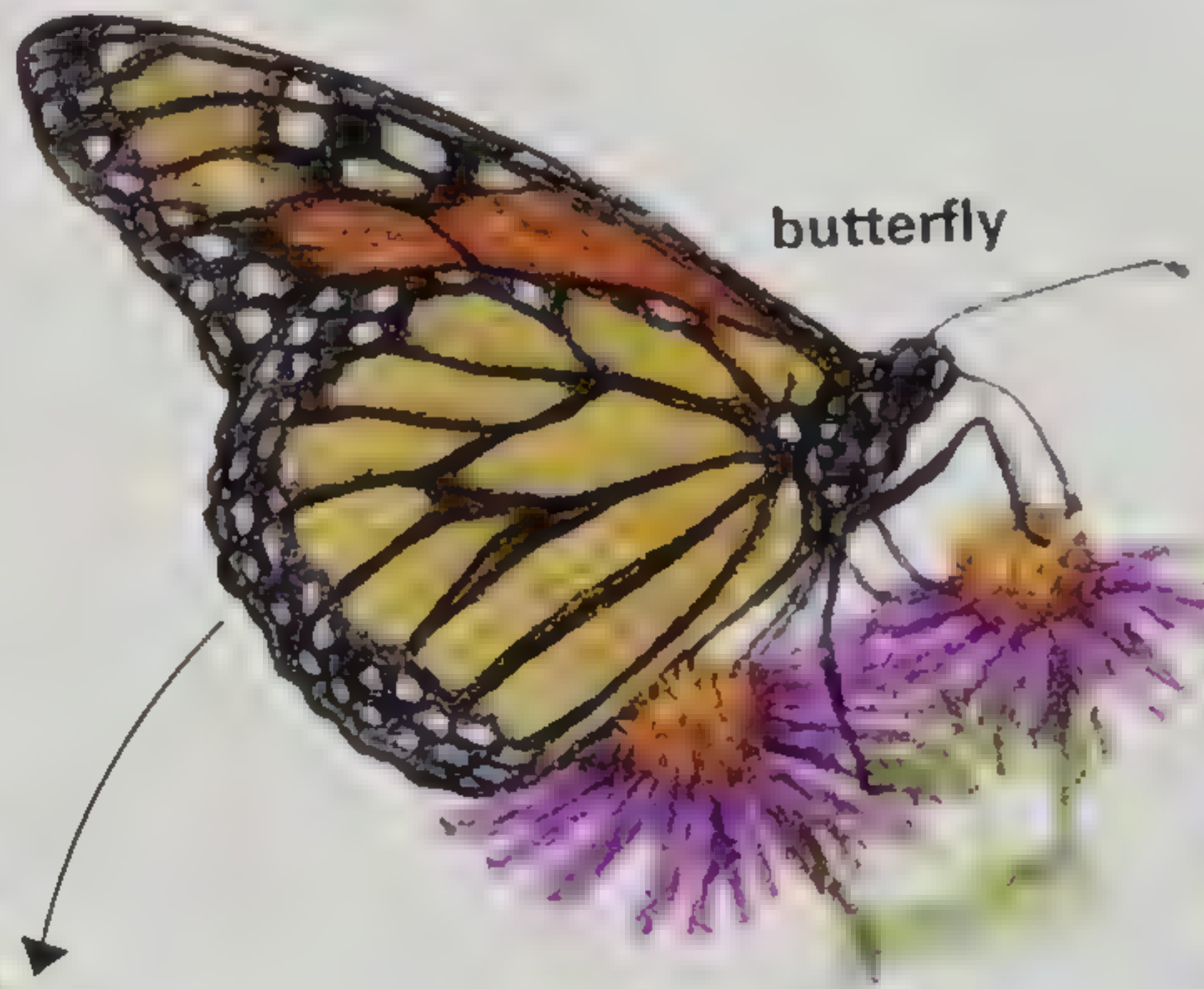
cricket



wasp



cicada



butterfly



honeybee



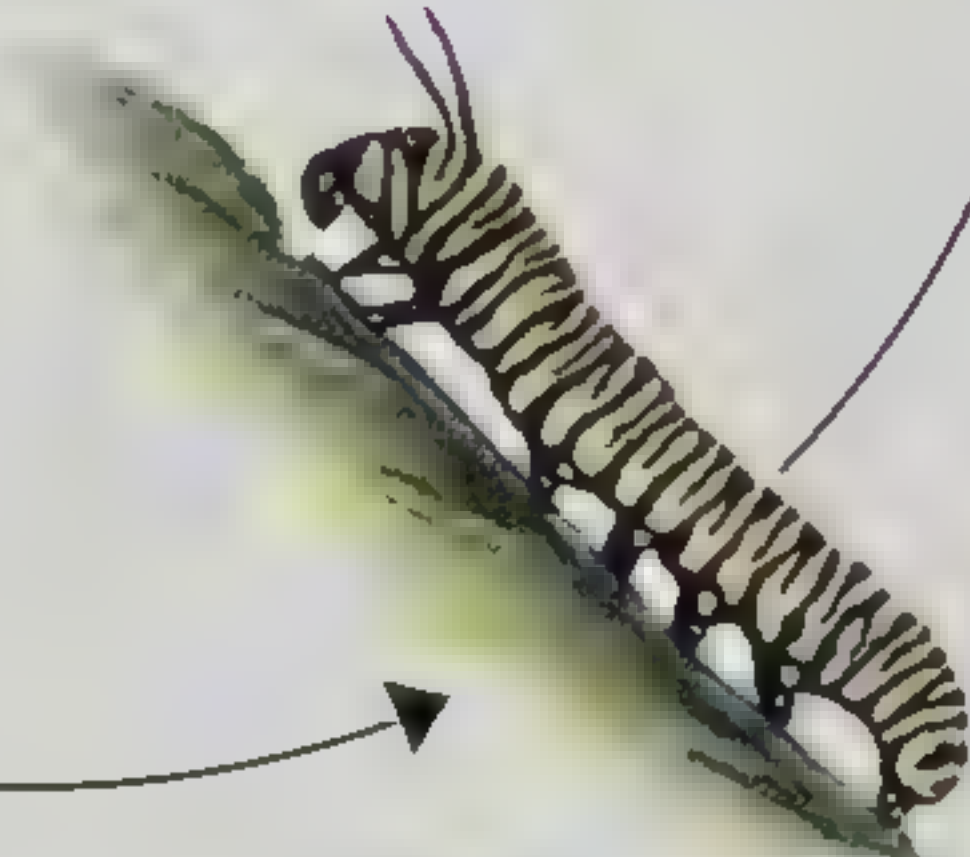
bumblebee



praying mantis, mantis



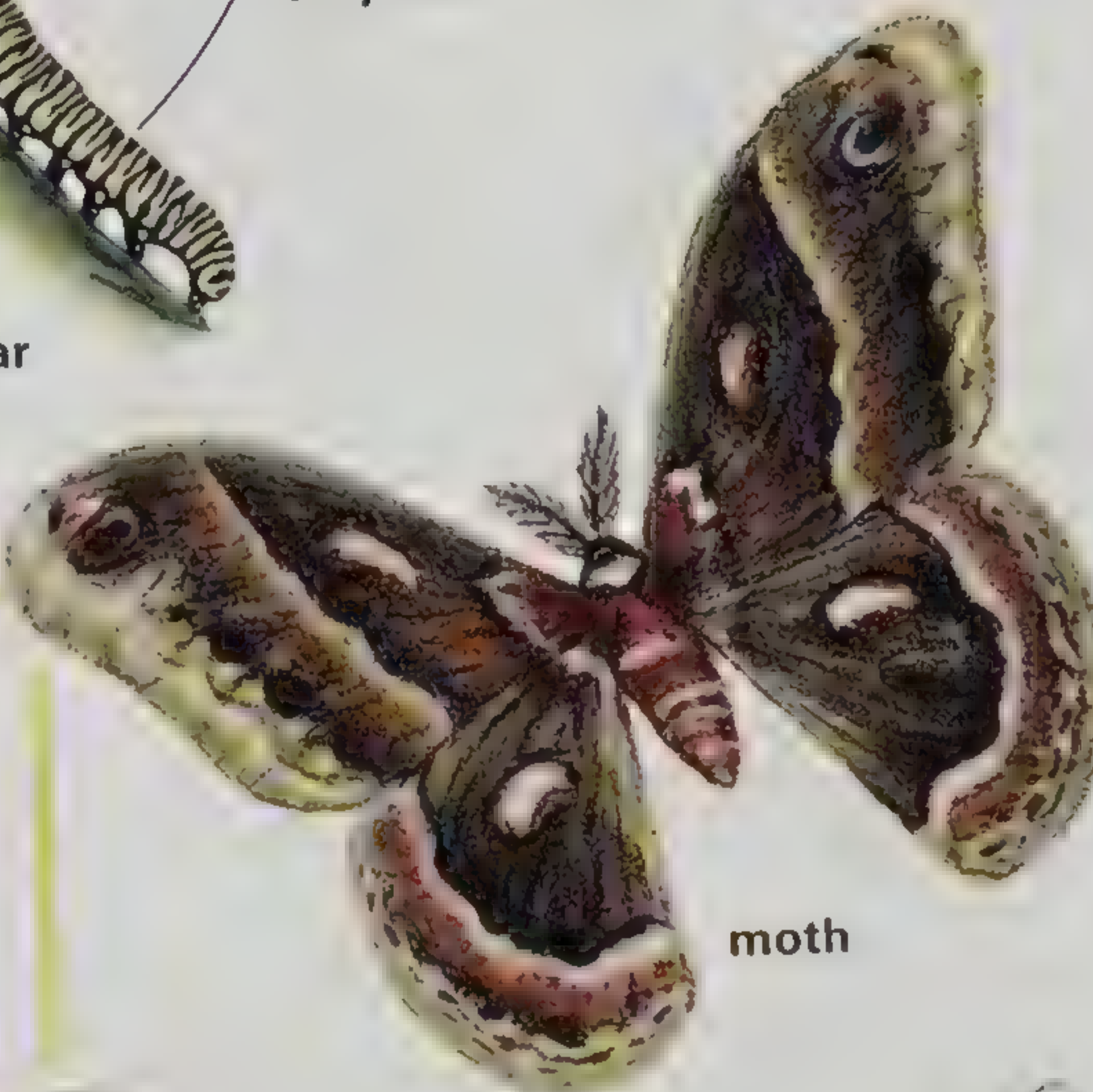
eggs



caterpillar



chrysalis



moth



dragonfly

spider web (US),
spider's web, web

ARACHNIDS



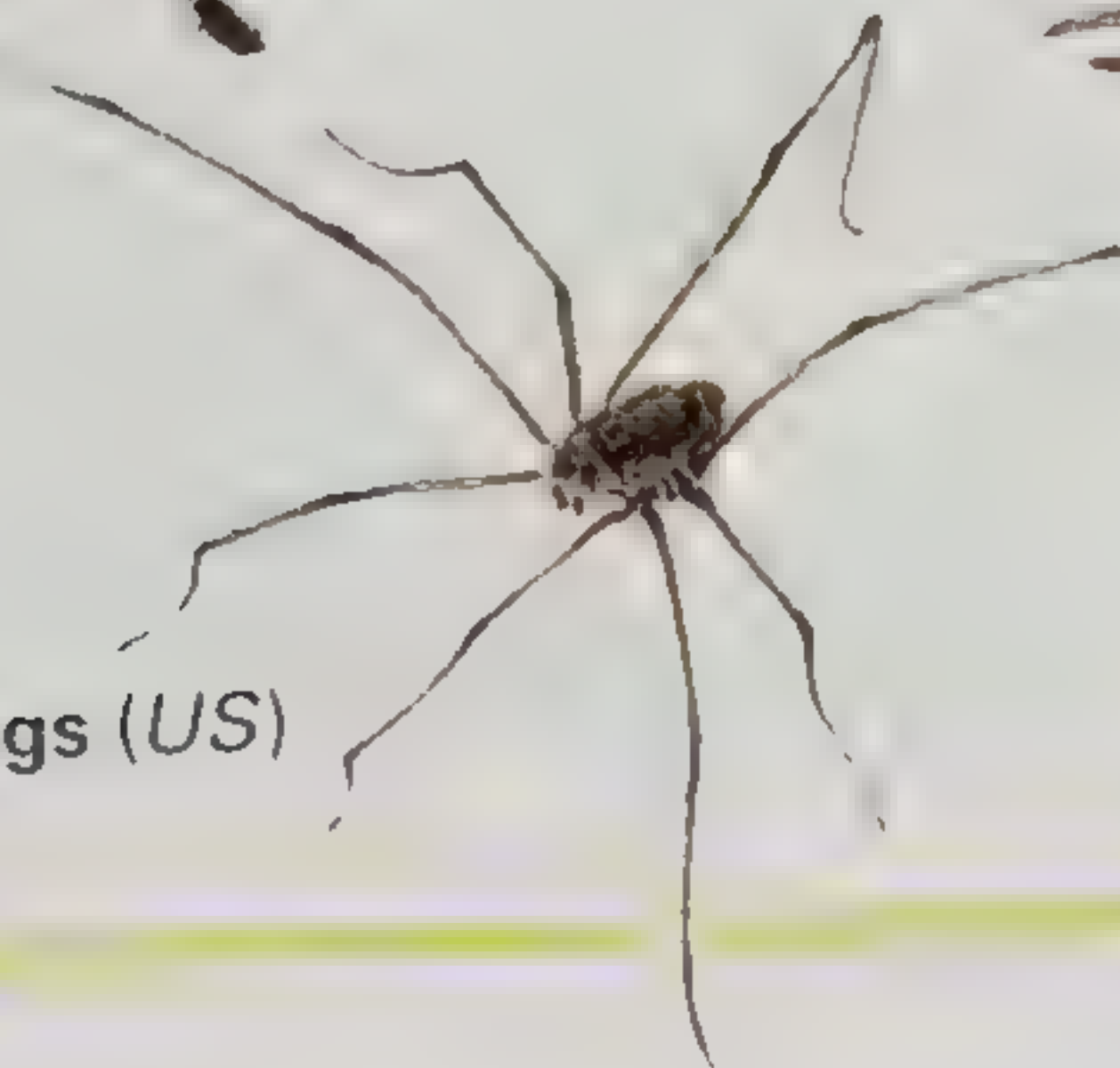
tarantula



spider



scorpion



daddy longlegs (US)

Gems and Jewelry

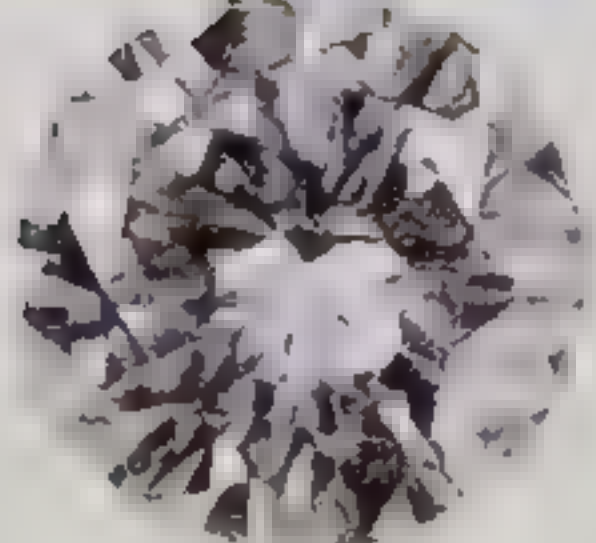
C11



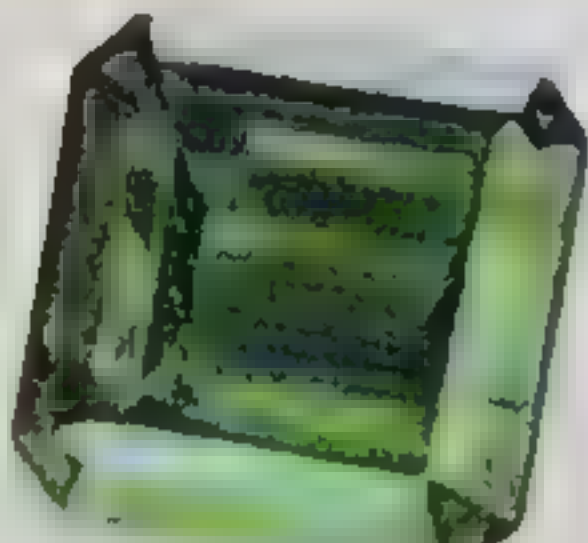
amethyst



aquamarine



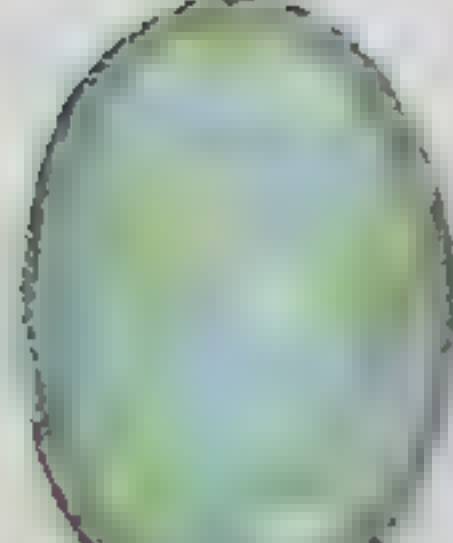
diamond



emerald



garnet



jade



lapis lazuli,
lapis



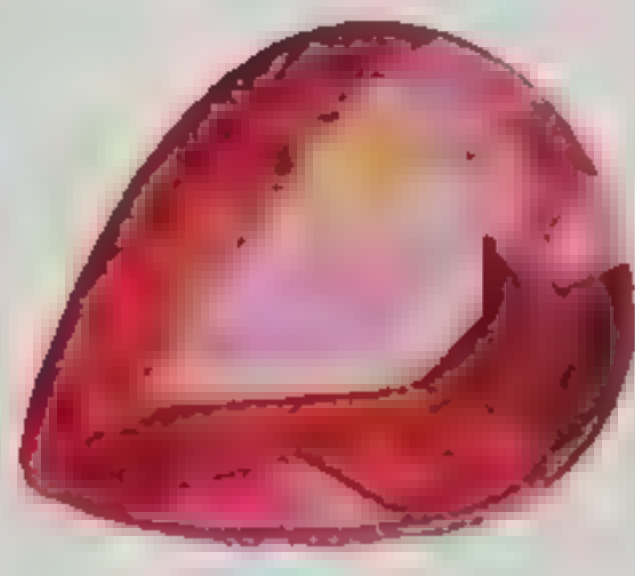
onyx



opal



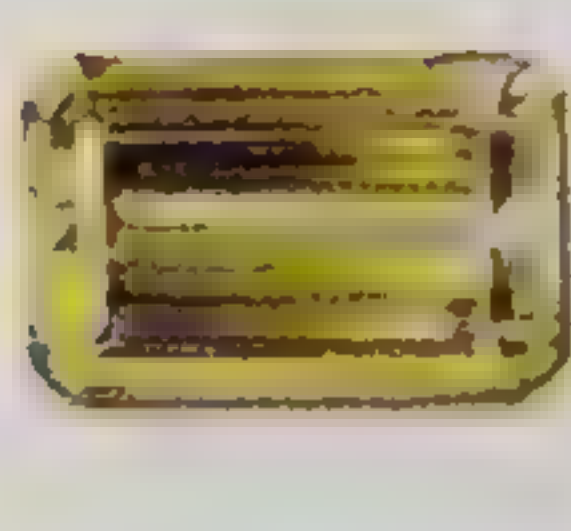
peridot



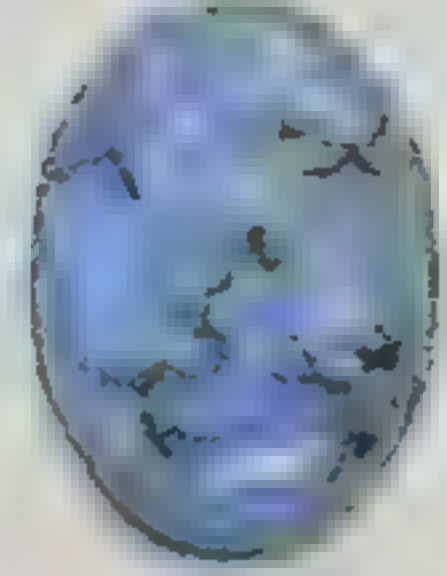
ruby



sapphire



topaz



turquoise



stud



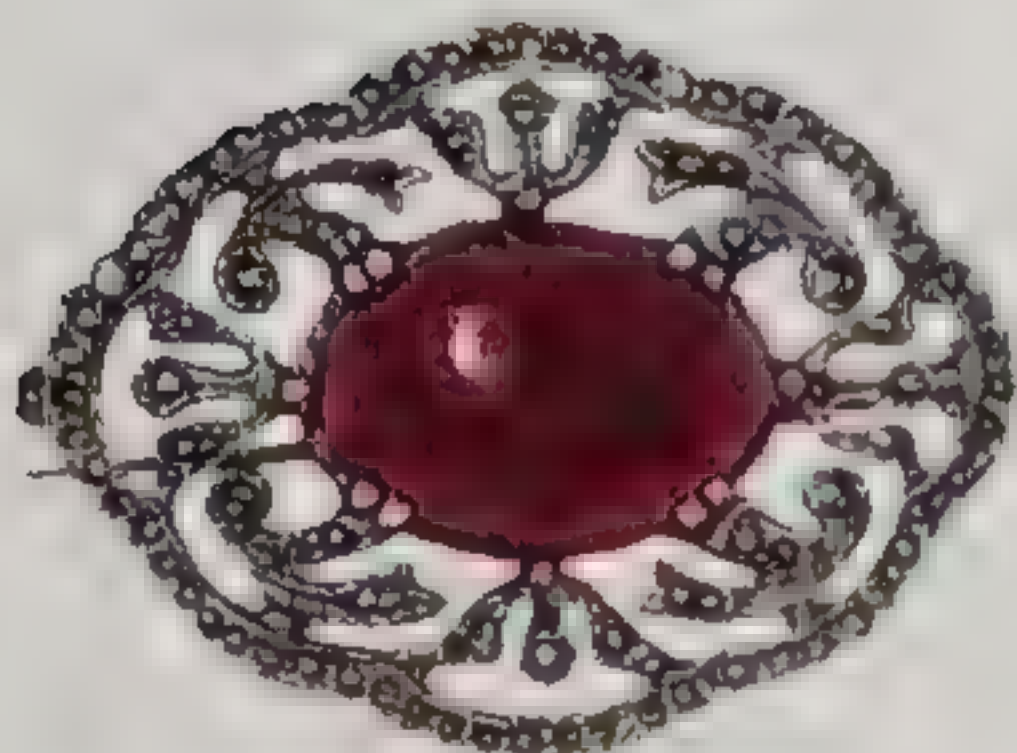
ring



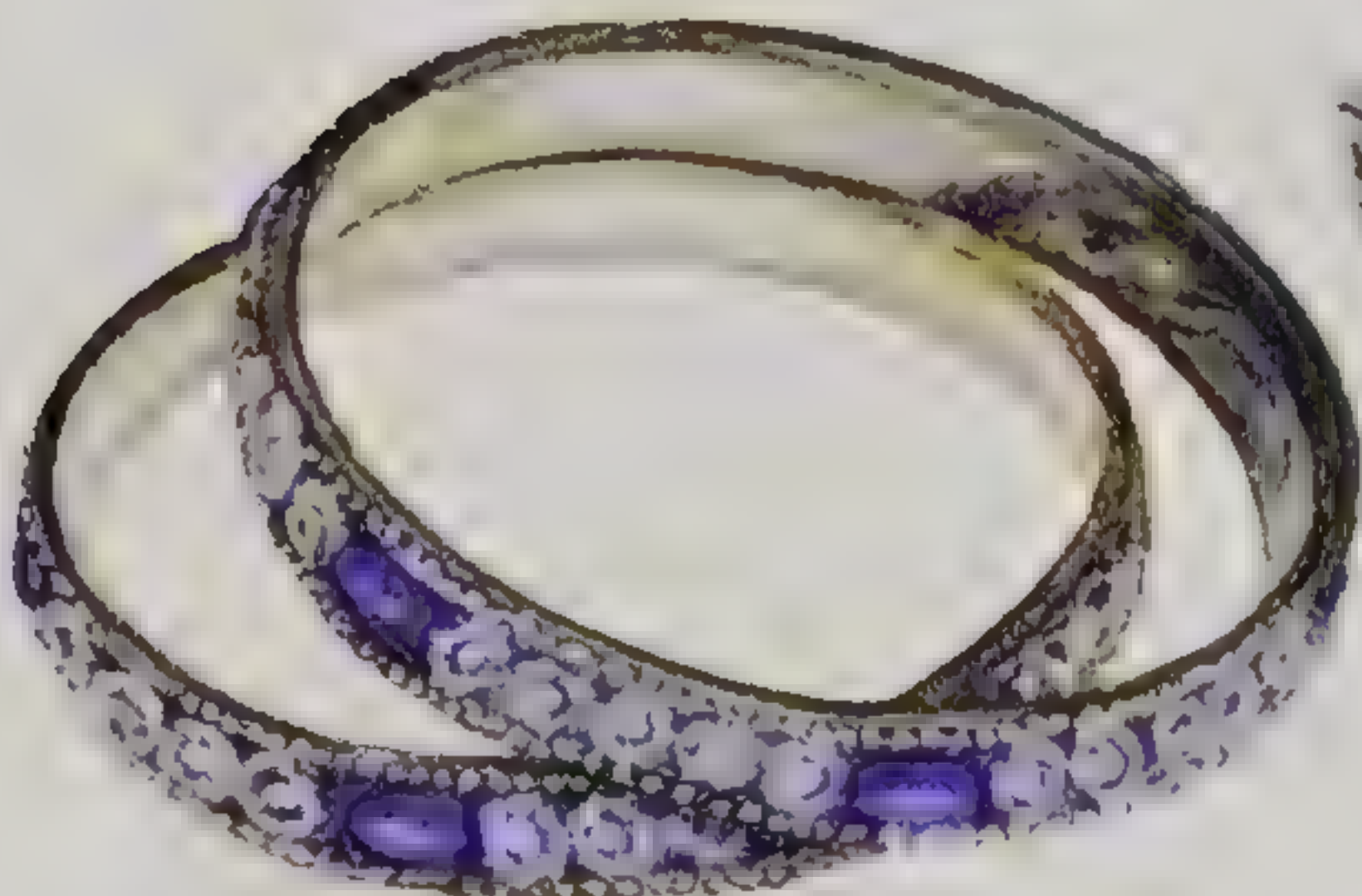
signet ring



cuff links



brooch, pin (*chiefly US*)



bangles



locket



chain

clasp

pendant

pearl

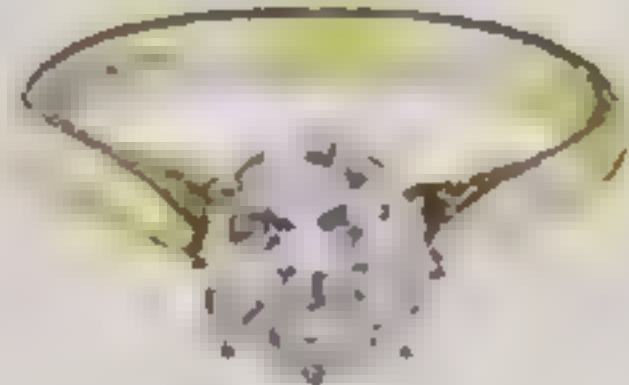
necklace



earrings



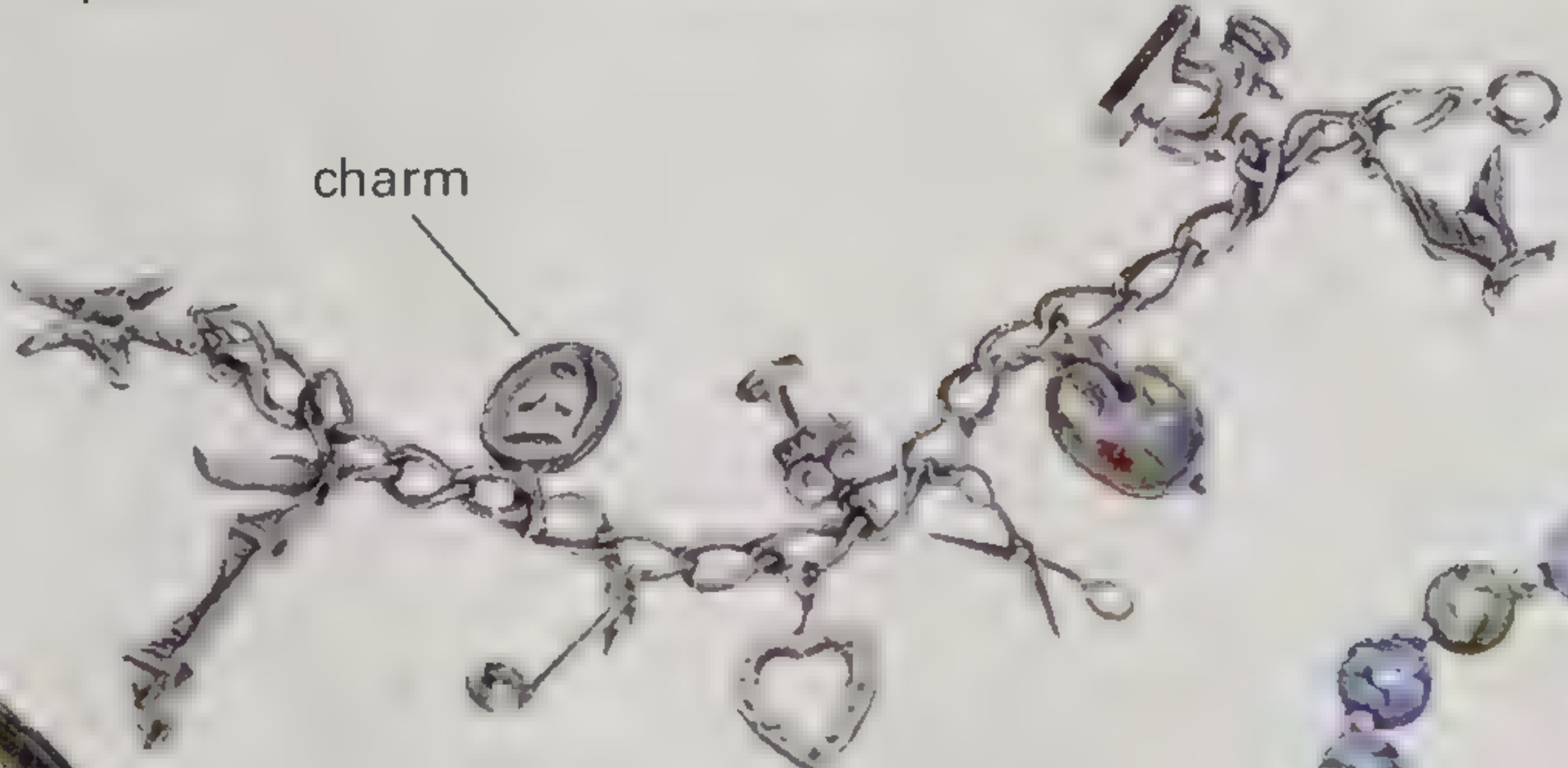
wedding rings,
wedding bands



engagement
ring

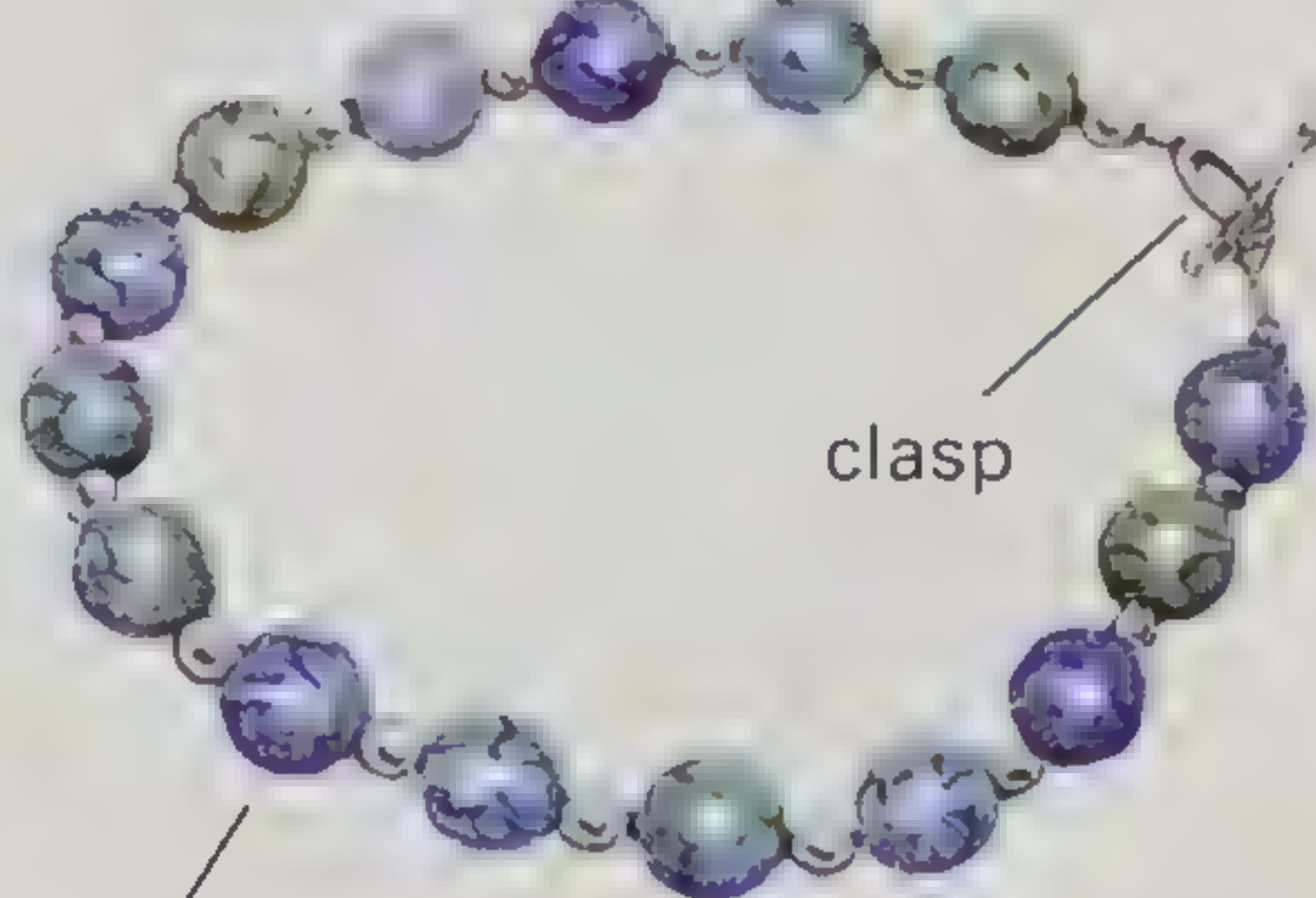


cameo



charm

charm bracelet



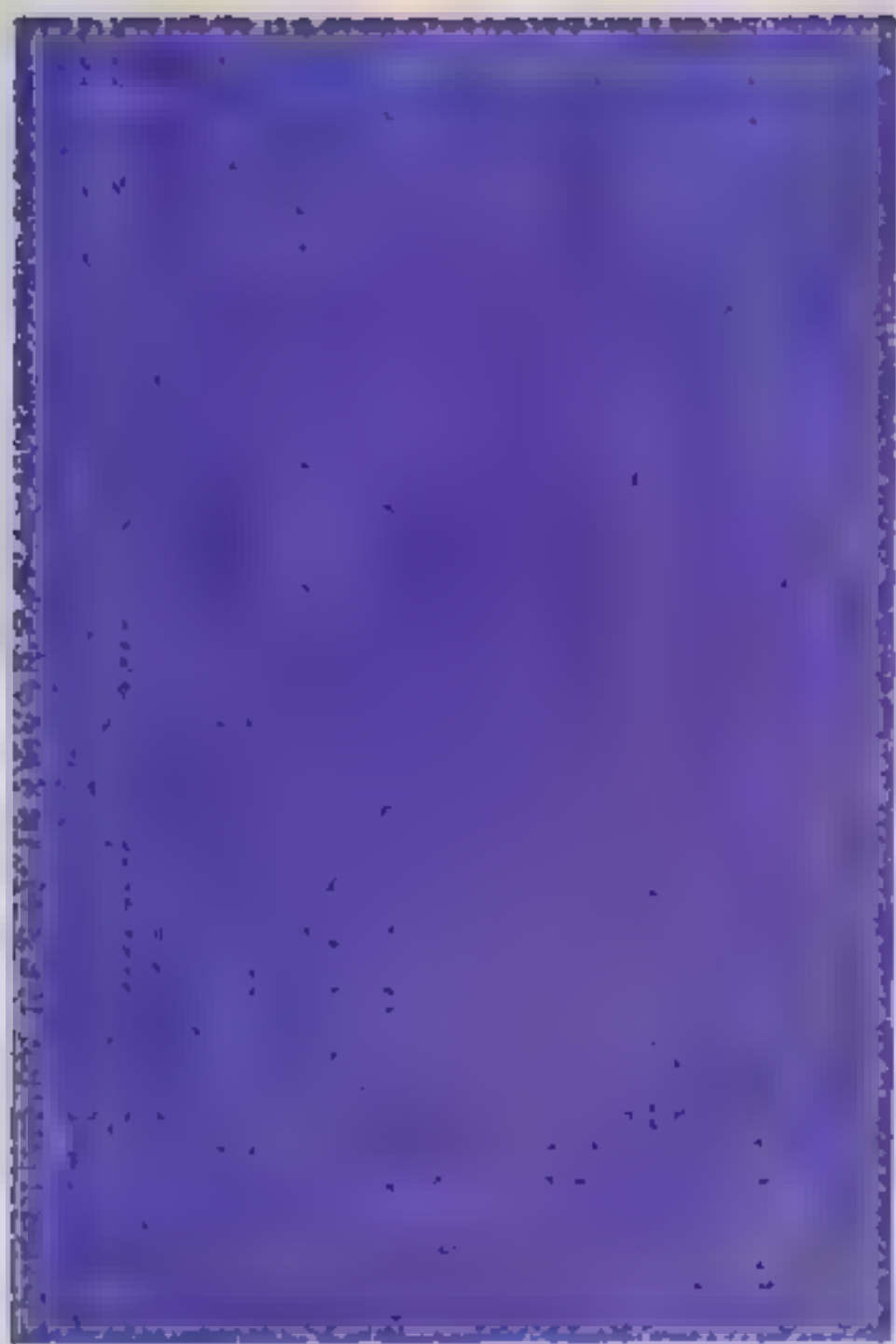
clasp

bead

bracelet

Patterns

C12



solid



paisley



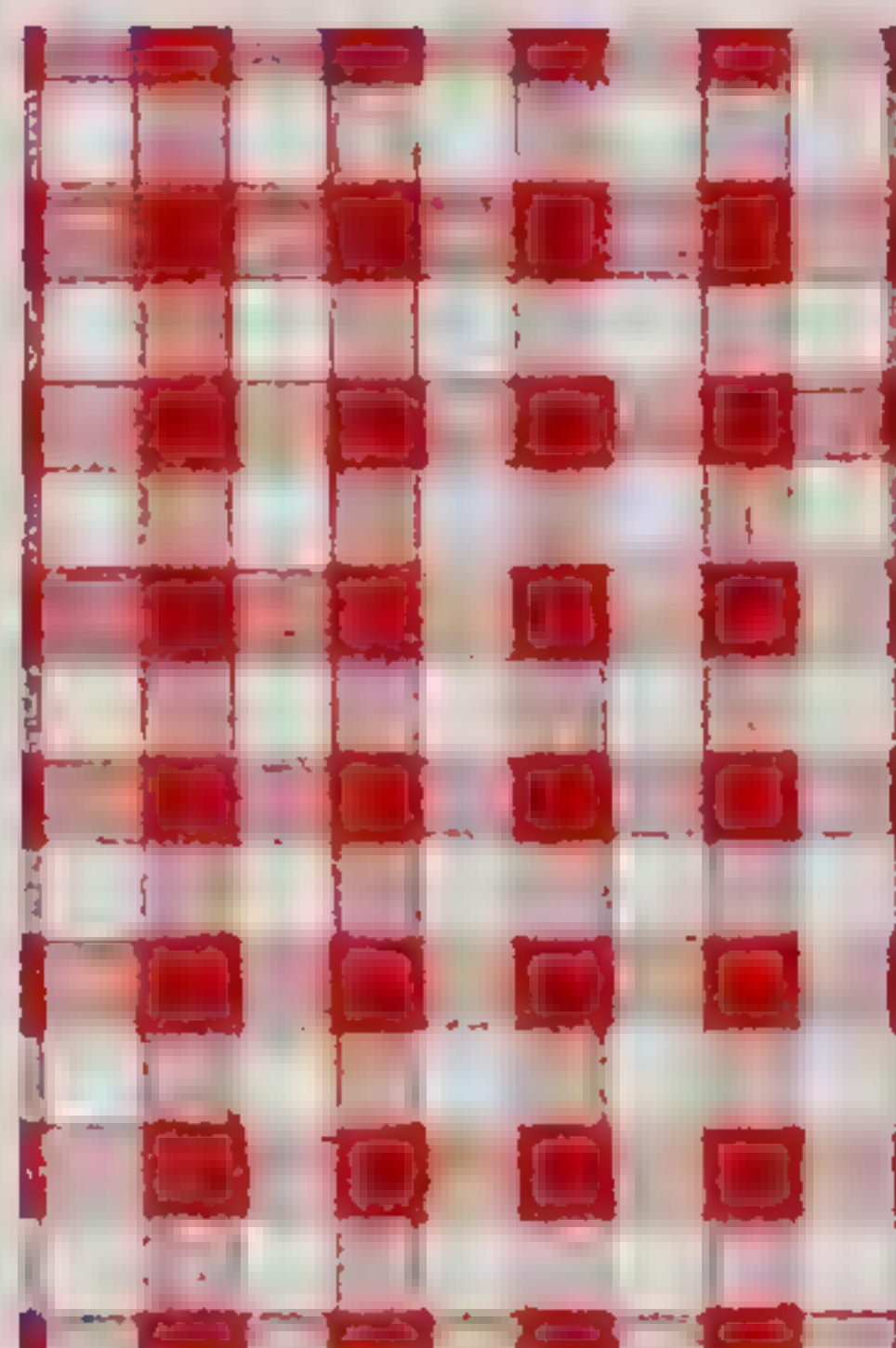
polka dots



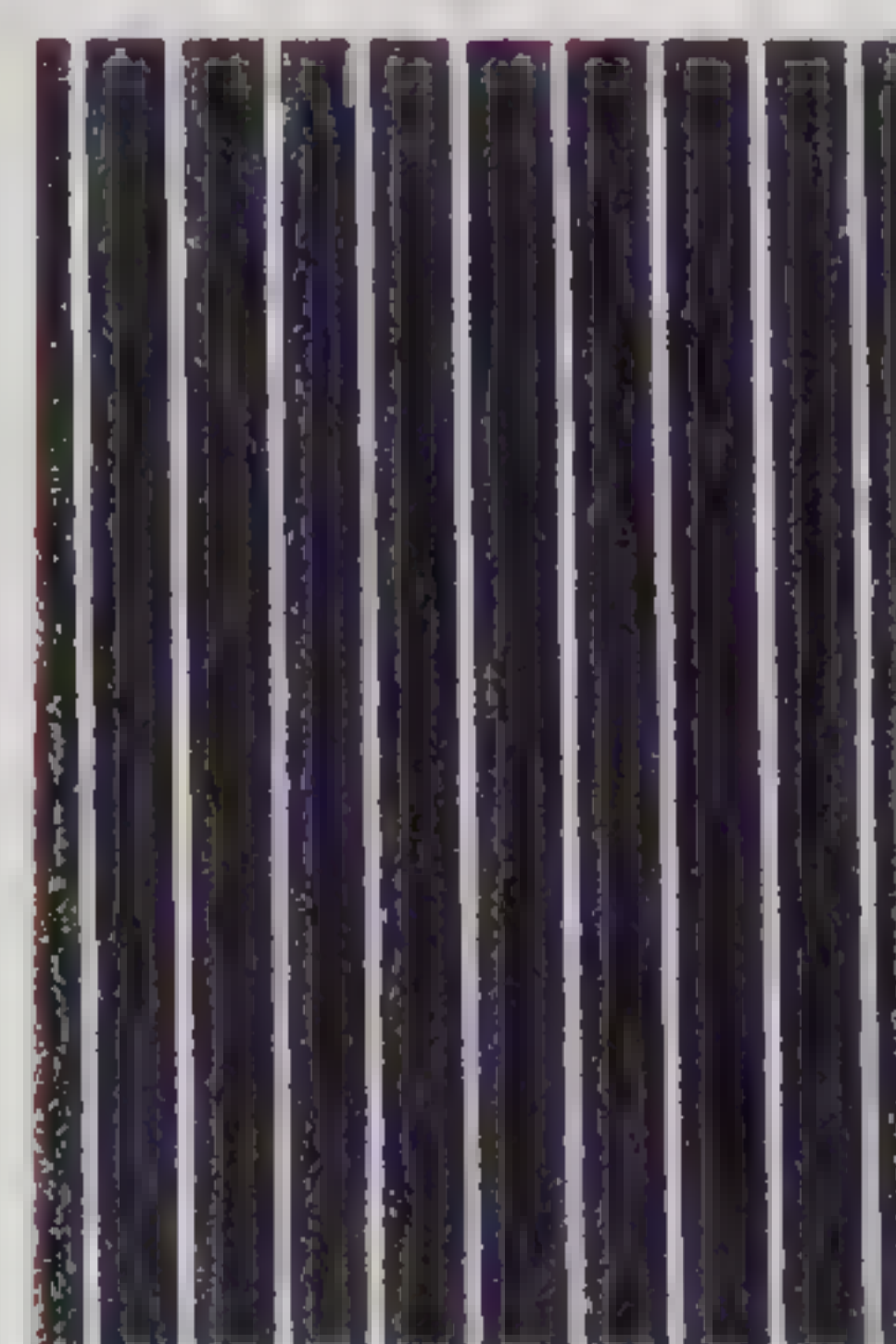
floral



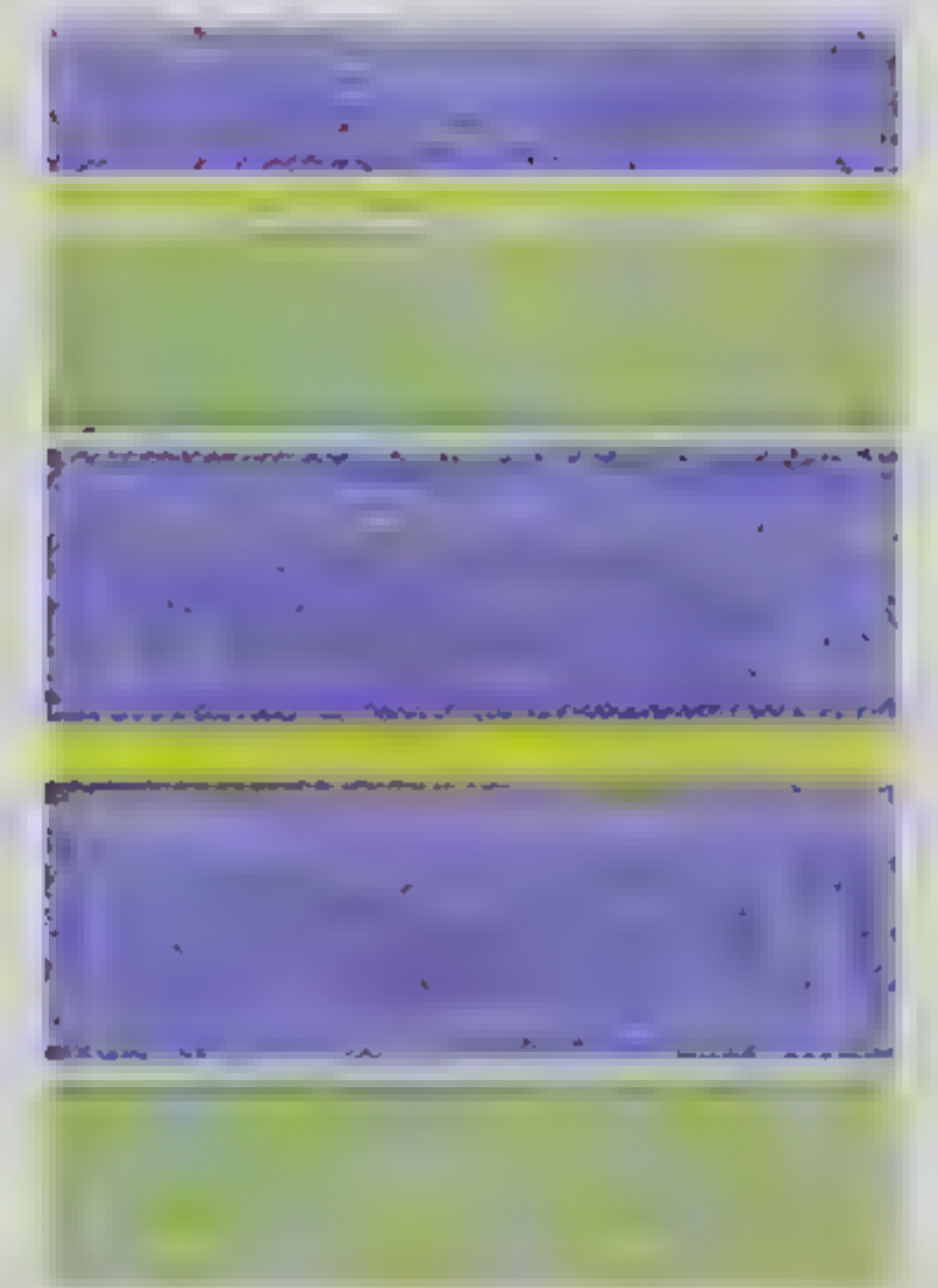
plaid



checked



pinstripe



striped

Clothing



bathrobe,
robe (*chiefly US*)

belt

hem



nightgown,
nightdress (*Brit*)



pajamas (*US*),
pyjamas (*Brit*)



long johns,
long underwear (*US*)

Clothing



swimming trunks,
trunks



top

bottom



bikini



swimsuit, bathing suit (*chiefly US*),
swimming costume (*Brit*)



leotard



knee socks
(*chiefly US*)



ankle socks,
anklets (*US*)



socks



leggings



pantyhose (*US*),
tights (*Brit*)



tights



bra, brassiere



panties (*chiefly US*),
knickers (*Brit*)



boxer shorts, boxers



briefs

waistband



slip



camisole



undershirt (*US*),
vest (*Brit*)



undershirt (*US*),
vest (*Brit*)



half slip



halter, halter top



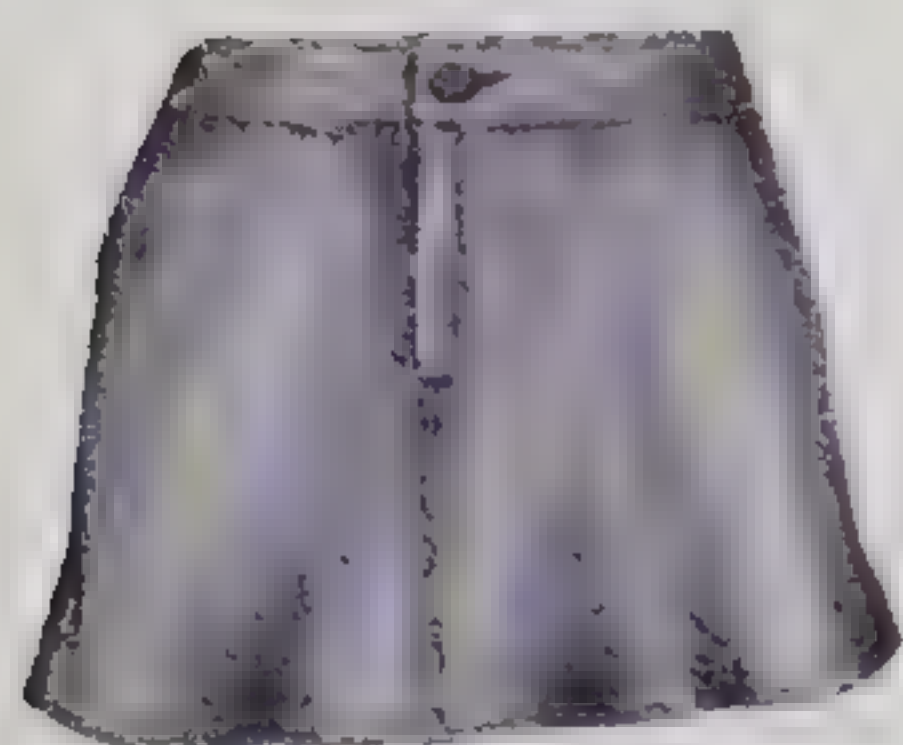
blouse



tank top (US)



polo shirt



miniskirt, mini



skirt

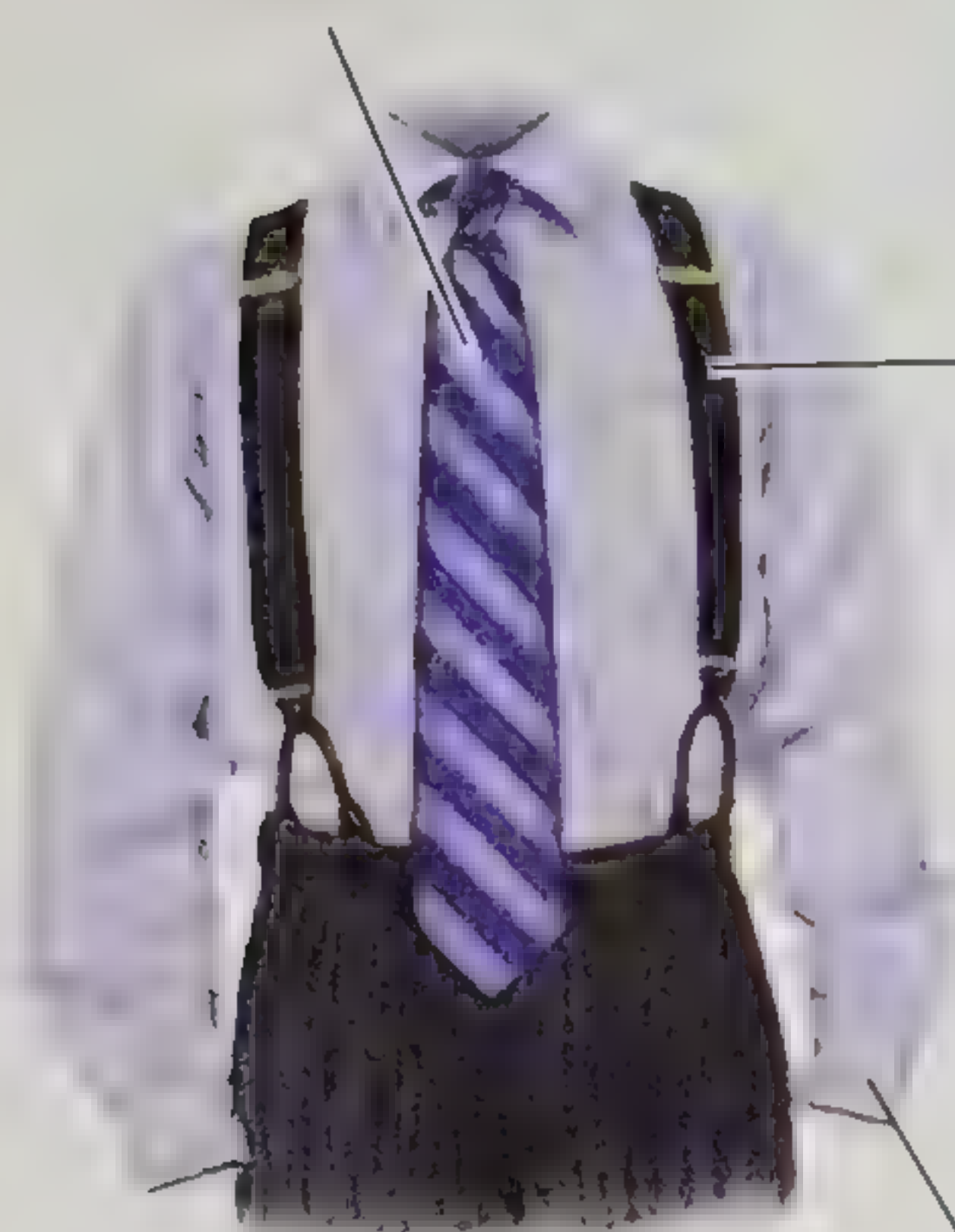


shorts



capri pants, capris

necktie (US), tie



dress shirt (US)

cuff

suspenders (US),
braces (Brit)



T-shirt



sweatshirt

short-sleeved shirt



overalls (US),
dungarees (Brit)



pants (chiefly US), trousers

belt



jeans, blue jeans



sweatpants (chiefly US)

Clothing



cardigan,
cardigan sweater (US)



turtleneck (US),
polo neck (Brit)



sweater, pullover,
jumper (Brit)



raincoat

vest (US), waistcoat (chiefly Brit)



suit

cuff (US),
turn-up (Brit)

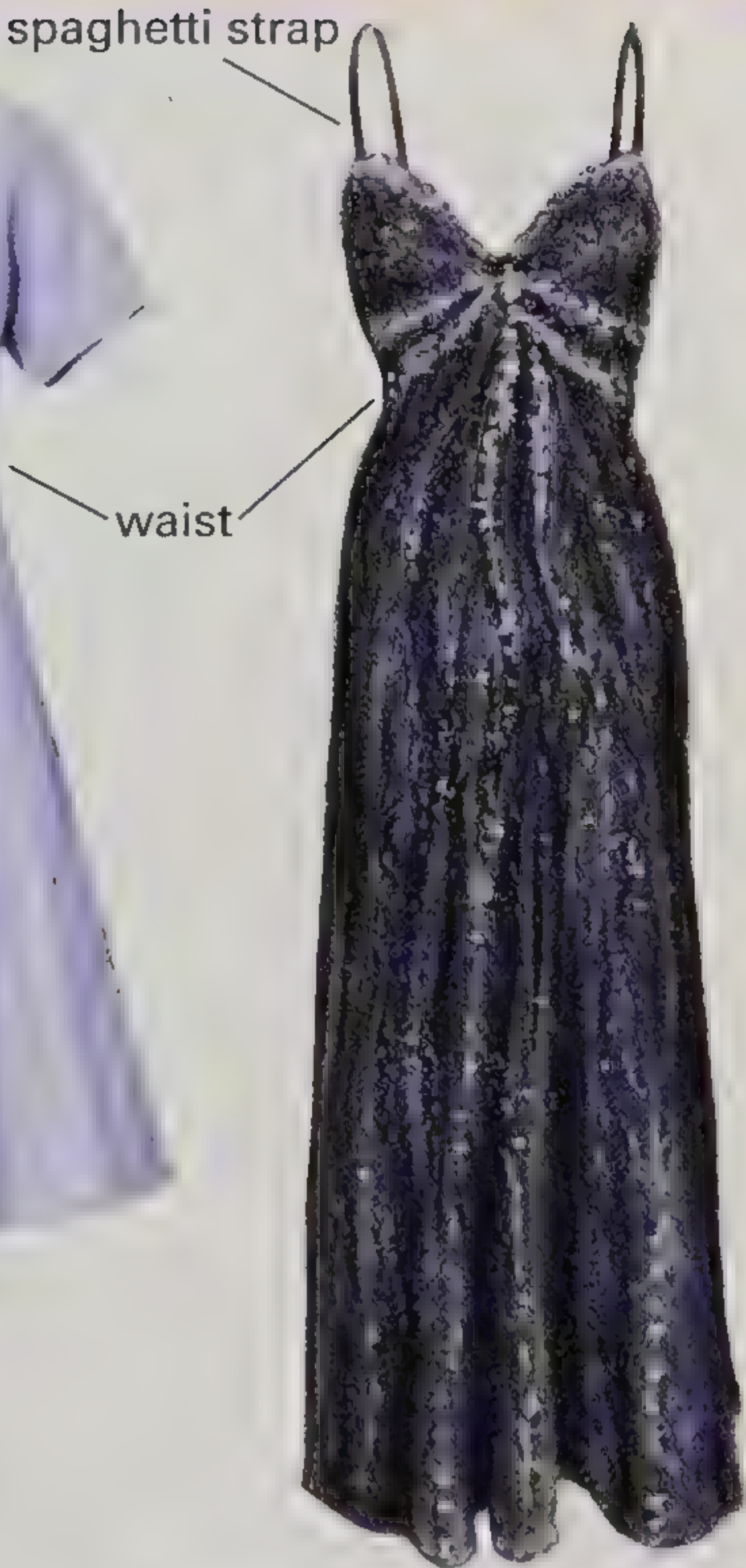


dress



lapel

sport coat (US), sports coat,
sports jacket, sport jacket (US)



spaghetti strap

waist

evening gown, evening dress

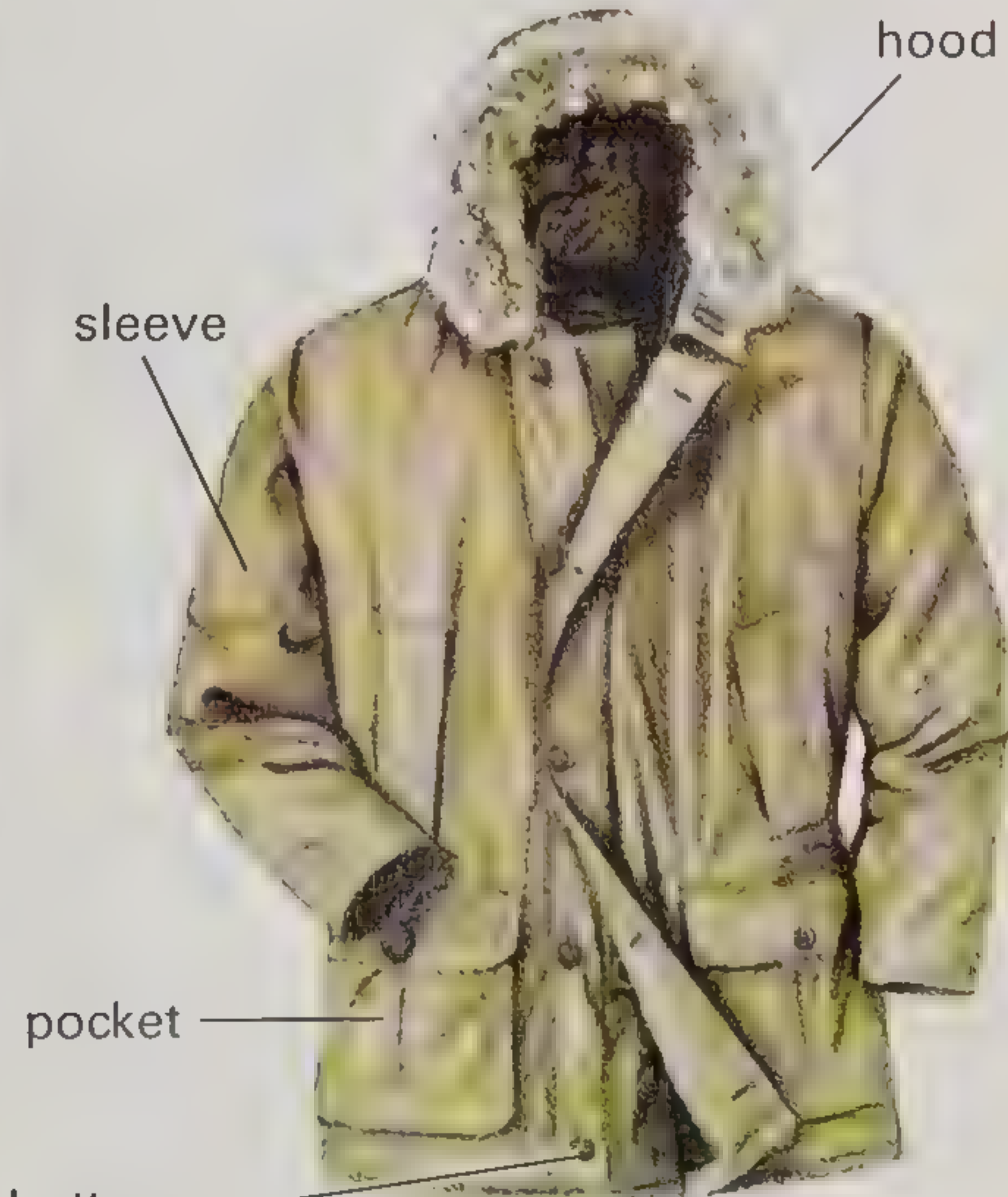


scarf

jacket



overcoat



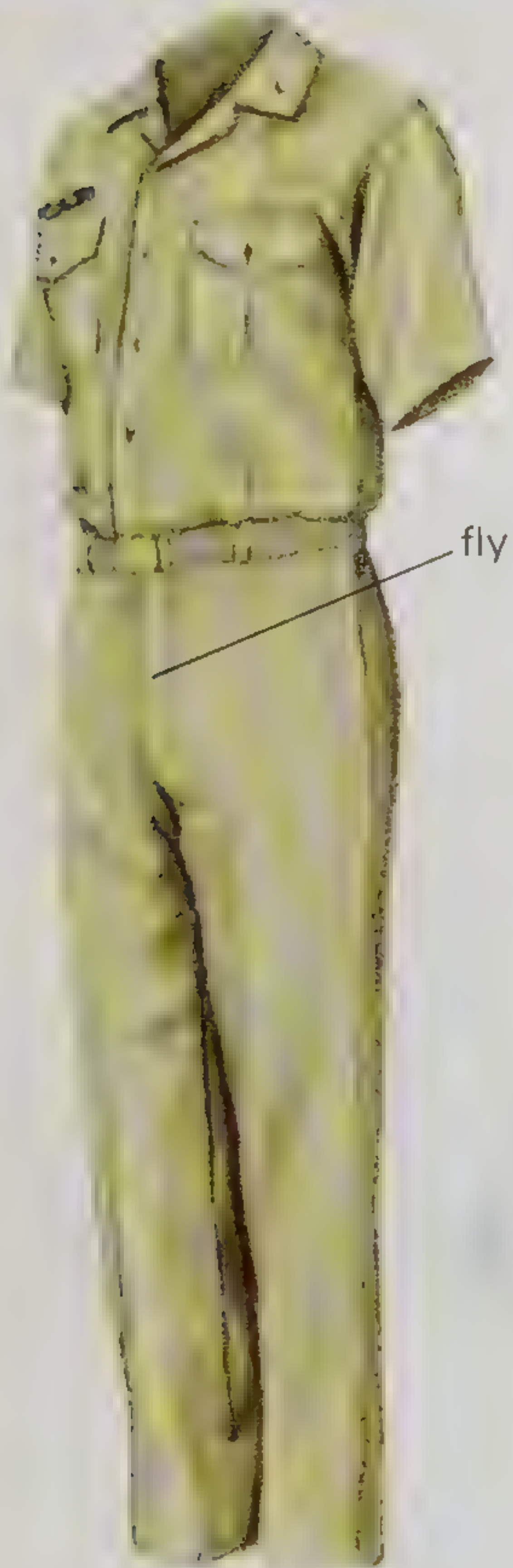
hood

sleeve

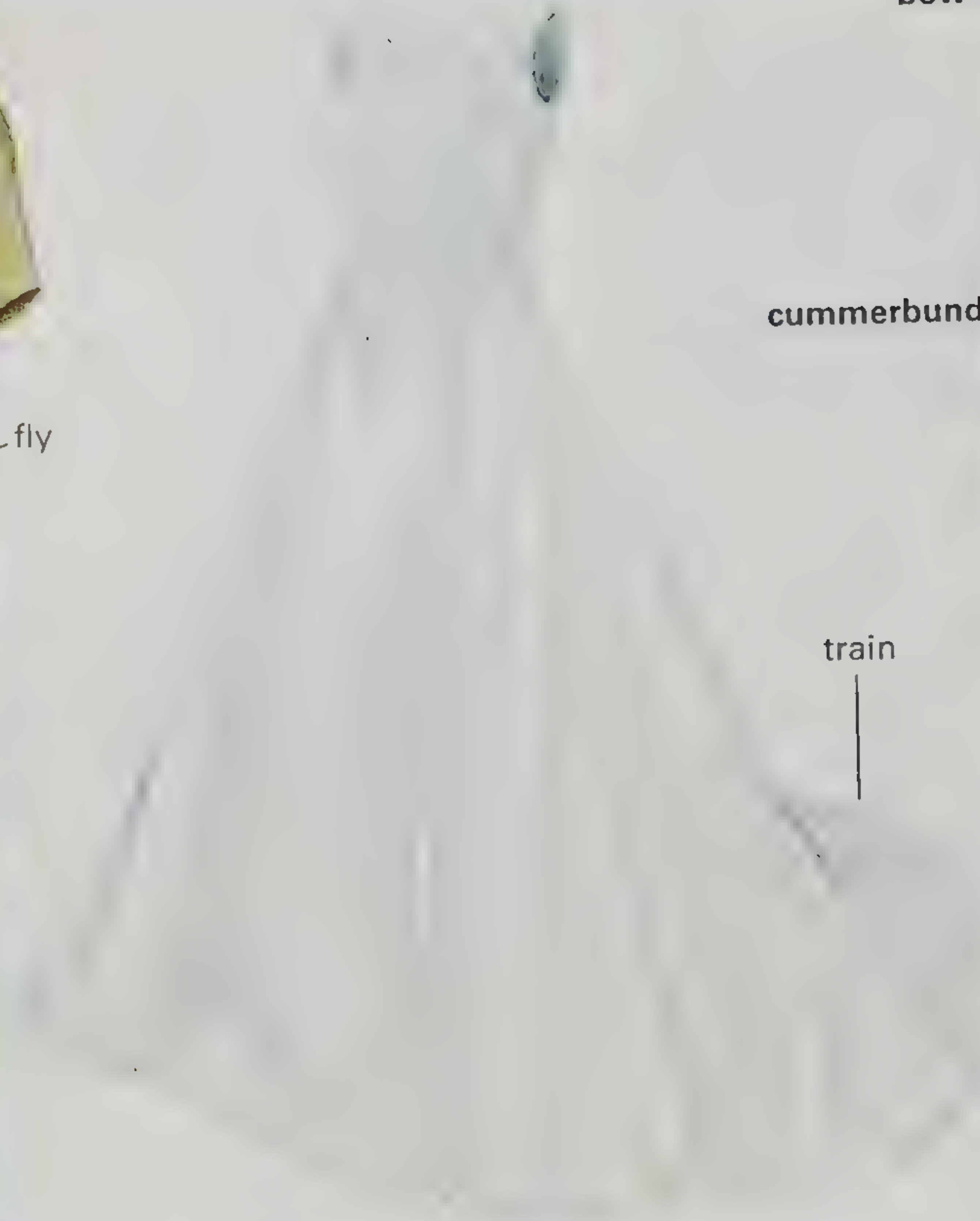
pocket

button

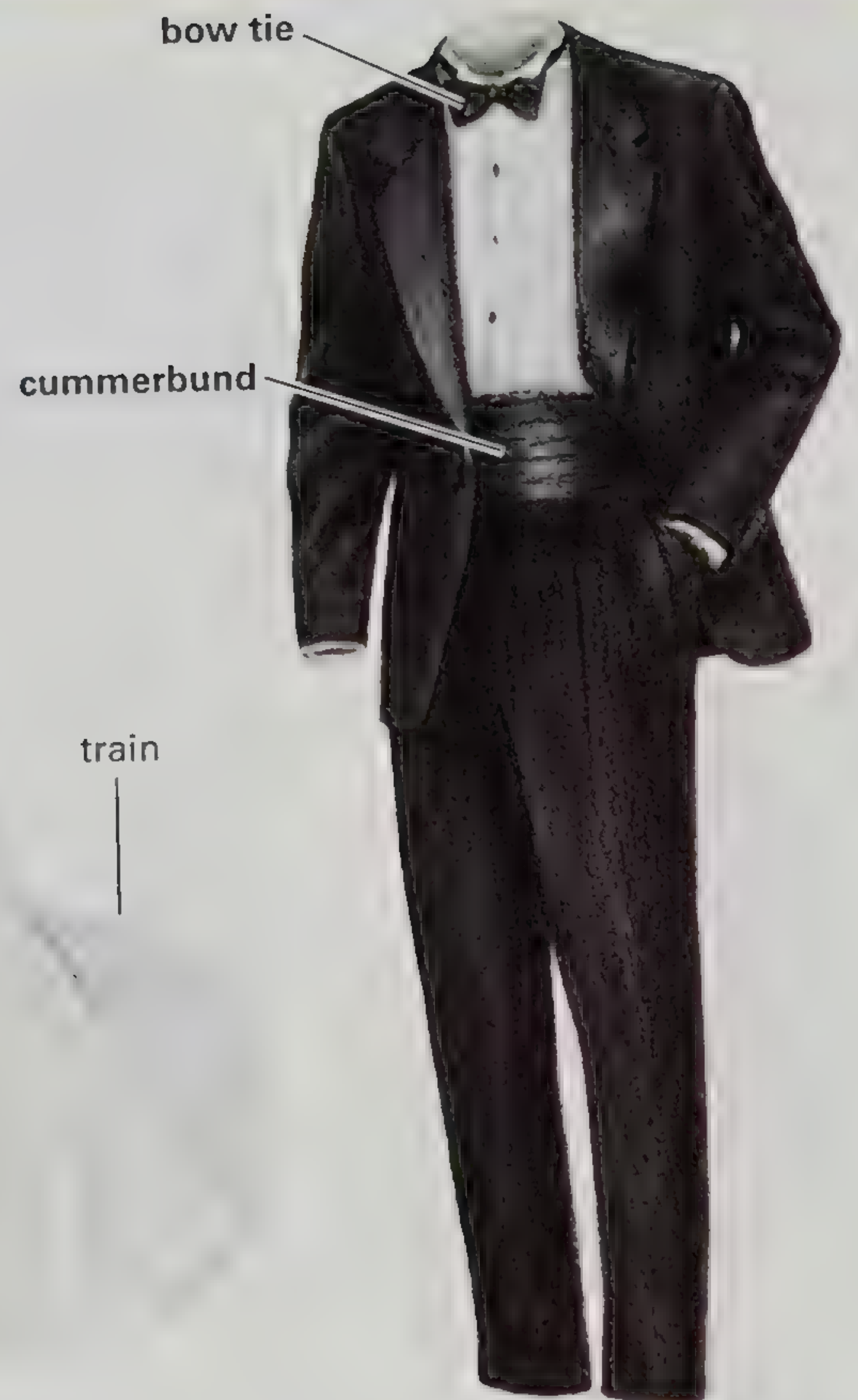
parka



uniform



wedding dress, wedding gown



tuxedo (*chiefly US*),
dinner suit (*Brit*)



muumuu



kilt



sarong



kimono



sari

Geographical Names

Ab-bots-ford /'æbɒtsfəd/ : city in British Columbia, Canada
Ab-er-deen /,æbə'di:n/ : city in Scotland – **Ab-er-do-ni-an** /,æbə'dounijən/ *adj or noun*

Ab-i-djan /,ɑ:bi'dʒɑ:n/ : city in the Ivory Coast

Ab-i-lene /'æbə,li:n/ : U.S. city, Texas

Ab-kha-zia /,æb'kɛɜʒijə/ : area in the Republic of Georgia – **Ab-kha-zian** /,æb'kɛɜʒijən/ *adj or noun*

Abu Dha-bi /,ɑ:bu'dɑ:bi/ : city in the United Arab Emirates

Ab-ys-sin-ia /,æbə'sinijə/ see **ETHIOPIA** – **Ab-ys-sin-i-an** /,æbə'sinijən/ *adj or noun*

Aca-dia /ə'keɪdijə/ : early name for Nova Scotia, Canada – **Aca-di-an** /ə'keɪdijən/ *adj or noun*

Aca-pul-co /,ɑ:kə'pulkou/ : city in Mexico

Acon-ca-gua /,ɑ:koun'kɑ:gwa/ : mountain in Argentina

Ad-dis Aba-ba /'ɑ:dis'ɑ:bɑ,bɑ:/ : city in Ethiopia

Ad-e-laide /'ædə,leɪd/ : city in Australia

Aden, Gulf of /'ɑ:dn/ – **the Gulf of Aden** : part of the Indian Ocean

Ad-i-ron-dack /,ædə'rɑ:n,dæk/ – **the Adirondack Mountains** *also* **the Adirondacks** : mountains in the U.S., in New York

Adri-at-ic /,eɪdri'ætɪk/ – **the Adriatic Sea** *also* **the Adriatic** : part of the Mediterranean Sea

Ae-ge-an /i'dʒijən/ – **the Aegean Sea** *also* **the Aegean** : part of the Mediterranean Sea

Af-ghan-i-stan /æf'gænə,stæn/ : country in Asia – **Af-ghan** /'æf,gæn/ *adj or noun* – **Af-ghani** /æf'gæni/ *adj*

Af-ri-ca /'æfrikə/ : continent south of the Mediterranean Sea – **African** *adj or noun*

Agra /'ɑ:grə/ : city in India

Ah-mad-a-bad /'ɑ:mədə,bɑ:d/ : city in India

Ak-ron /'ækrən/ : U.S. city, Ohio

Al-a-bama /,ælə'bæmə/ : state of the U.S. – **Al-a-bam-i-an** /,ælə'bæmijən/ *or* **Al-a-bam-an** /,ælə'bæmən/ *adj or noun*

Alas-ka /ə'læskə/

1 : state of the U.S.

2 **the Gulf of Alaska** : part of the Pacific Ocean

– **Alas-kan** /ə'læskən/ *adj or noun*

Al-ba-nia /æl'beɪniə/ : country in Europe – **Al-ba-nian** /æl'beɪnijən/ *adj or noun*

Al-ber-ta /æl'bətə/ : province of Canada – **Al-ber-tan** /æl'bətən/ *adj or noun*

Al-bu-quer-que /'ælbə,kəki/ : U.S. city, New Mexico – **Al-bu-quer-que-an** /'ælbə,kəkijən/ *noun*

Al-ca-traz /'ælkə,træz/ : island in the U.S., in California

Alep-po /ə'lepou/ : city in Syria

Aleu-tian /ə'lu:fən/ – **the Aleutian Islands** *also* **the Aleutians** : islands in the U.S., in Alaska

Al-ex-an-dria /,æliɡ'zændriə/

1 : U.S. city, Virginia

2 : city in Egypt

– **Al-ex-an-dri-an** /,æliɡ'zændrijən/ *adj or noun*

Al-ge-ria /æl'dʒirijə/ : country in Africa – **Al-ge-ri-an** /æl'dʒirijən/ *adj or noun*

Al-giers /æl'dʒɪrz/ : city in Algeria – **Al-ge-rine** /,ældʒə'rin/ *adj or noun*

Al-lah-a-bad /'alɑhɑ,bad/ : city in India

Al-le-ghe-ny /,ælə'gemi/

1 **the Allegheny River** *also* **the Allegheny** : river in the U.S., in Pennsylvania and New York

2 **the Allegheny Mountains** *also* **the Alleghenies** : mountains in the U.S., in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia

Al-len-town /'ælən,təʊn/ : U.S. city, Pennsylvania

Al-ma-ty /əl'mɑ:ti/ : city in Kazakhstan

Alps /'ælpz/ – **the Alps** : mountains in Europe – **Al-pine** /'ælpain/ *adj*

Al-sace /æl'sæs/ : region of France – **Al-sa-tian** /æl'seɪfən/ *adj or noun*

Am-a-ril-lo /,æmə'rɪlou/ : U.S. city, Texas

Am-a-zon /'æmə,zɑ:n/ – **the Amazon River** *also* **the Amazon** : river in South America – **Am-a-zo-nian** /,æmə'zounijən/ *adj*

Amer-i-ca /ə'merəkə/

1 : the continent of North America or the continent of South America

2 *or* **the Amer-i-cas** /ə'merəkəz/ : lands of the Western Hemisphere

3 : **UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

– **Amer-i-can** /ə'merəkən/ *adj or noun*

American Samoa : islands of the U.S., in the Pacific Ocean

Am-ster-dam /'æmstə,dæm/ : city in the Netherlands – **Am-ster-dam-mer** /'æmstə,dæmə/ *noun*

Amu Dar'-ya /,ɑ:mu'dɑəjə/ – **the Amu Dar'ya** : river in Asia

Amur /ɑ'muə/ – **the Amur River** *also* **the Amur** : river in Asia

An-a-heim /'ænə,haim/ : U.S. city, California

An-a-to-lia /,ænə'touliə/ see **ASIA MINOR** – **An-a-to-li-an** /,ænə'toulijən/ *adj or noun*

An-chor-age /'æŋkərɪdʒ/ : U.S. city, Alaska

An-da-lu-sia /,ændə'lu:ʒijə/ : region of Spain – **An-da-lu-sian** /,ændə'lu:ʒən/ *adj or noun*

An-da-man Sea /'ændəmən/ – **the Andaman Sea** : part of the Bay of Bengal

An-des /'æn,dɪz/ – **the Andes Mountains** *also* **the Andes** : mountains in South America – **An-de-an** /'æn,dijən/ *adj* – **An-dine** /'æn,dɪ:n/ *adj*

An-dor-ra /æn'dorə/ : country in Europe – **An-dor-ran** /æn'dorən/ *adj or noun*

Ang-kor /'æŋ,kɔə/ : ruins of old city in Cambodia

An-glia /'æŋgliə/ : Latin name of England – **An-gli-an** /'æŋglijən/ *adj or noun*

An-go-la /æŋ'goulə/ : country in Africa – **An-go-lan** /æŋ'goulən/ *adj or noun*

An-guil-la /æŋ'gwɪlə/ : British island in the West Indies – **An-guil-lan** /æŋ'gwɪlən/ *adj or noun*

An-ka-ra /'æŋkərə/ : city in Turkey

An-nam /æ'næm/ : region of Vietnam – **An-nam-ese** /,ænə'mi:z/ *adj or noun*

An-nap-o-lis /ə'næpəlɪs/ : U.S. city, Maryland

Ann Ar-bor /,æn'arbə/ : U.S. city, Michigan

An-shan /'ɑ:n'ʃɑ:n/ : city in China

Ant-arc-tic /,ænt'ɑəktɪk/ – **the Antarctic** : Antarctica and the ocean around it

Ant-arc-ti-ca /,ænt'ɑəktɪkə/ : continent at the South Pole – **Antarctic** *adj*

An-tie-tam /æn'ti:təm/ : creek in the U.S., in Pennsylvania and Maryland

An-ti-gua and Bar-bu-da /æn'ti:gændbəə'bu:də/ : island country in the West Indies

An-til-les /æn'tɪliz/ – **the Antilles** : the West Indies except for the Bahamas – **An-til-le-an** /æn'tɪlijən/ *adj*

Aomen see **MACAO**

Ap-en-nines /'æpə,nainz/ – **the Apennines** : mountains in Italy – **Ap-en-nine** /'æpə,nain/ *adj*

Ap-pa-la-chia /,æpə'leɪʃə, 'læʃə/ : region of the eastern U.S.

Ap-pa-la-chian /,æpə'leɪʃijən, ,æpə'læʃijən/ – **the Appalachian Mountains** *also* **the Appalachians** : mountains in North America

Aqa-ba, Gulf of /'ɑ:kəbə/ – **the Gulf of Aqaba** : part of the Red Sea

Aquid-neck Island /ə'kwɪd,nɛk/ *or* **Rhode Island** : island in the U.S., in the state of Rhode Island

Aq-ui-ta-nia /,ækwə'teɪnjə/ : part of the ancient Roman empire – **Aq-ui-ta-nian** /,ækwə'teɪnjən/ *adj or noun*

Ara-bia /ə'reɪbijə/ – **Arabia** *or* **the Arabian Peninsula** : area of southwestern Asia

Ar-a-by /'erəbi/ : literary name for Arabia

Ara-fu-ra Sea /orə'fura/ – **the Arafura Sea** : sea between Australia and New Guinea

Ar-al Sea /'erəl/ – **the Aral Sea** : lake between Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan

Ar-a-rat or **Mount Ararat** /'erə,ræt/ : mountain in Turkey near the border of Iran

Arc-tic /'aəktɪk/

1 **the Arctic Ocean** *also* **the Arctic** : ocean north of the Arctic Circle

2 **the Arctic** : the Arctic Ocean and lands in it

3 **the Arctic Archipelago** : group of islands of Canada – **Arctic** *adj*

Are-ci-bo /,arər'si:bou/ : U.S. city, Puerto Rico

Ar-gen-ti-na /,aədʒən'ti:nə/ : country in South America – **Ar-gen-tine** /'aədʒən,tain/ *adj or noun* – **Ar-gen-tin-ean** or **Ar-gen-tin-i-an** /,aədʒən'tɪnɪjən/ *adj or noun*

Ar-i-zo-na /,erə'zounə/ : state of the U.S. – **Ar-i-zo-nan** /,erə'zounən/ or **Ar-i-zo-nian** /,erə'zounɪjən/ *adj or noun*

Ar-kan-sas /'aəkən,sɑː; 2 is *also* ar'kænzəs/

1 : state of the U.S.

2 **the Arkansas River** *also* **the Arkansas** : river in the U.S., in Arkansas

– **Ar-kan-san** /aə'kænzən/ *adj or noun*

Ar-ling-ton /'aəlɪŋtən/ : U.S. city, Texas

Ar-me-nia /aə'mi:nɪjəl/ : country in Europe – **Ar-me-nian** /aə'mi:nɪjən/ *adj or noun*

Aru-ba /ə'ru:bə/ : Dutch island in the Caribbean – **Aru-ban** /ə'ru:bən/ *adj or noun*

Ar-vada /aə'vədə/ : U.S. city, Colorado

As-cen-sion or **Ascension Island** /ə'sensən/ : British island in the Atlantic Ocean

Asia /'eɪzə/ : continent north of the equator – **Asian** /'eɪzən/ *adj or noun*

Asia Minor or **Anatolia** : part of Turkey

As-sam /ə'sæm/ : former kingdom; now part of India – **As-sam-ese** /,æsə'miːz/ *adj or noun*

As-syr-ia /ə'sɪrɪə/ : empire in ancient western Asia – **As-syr-i-an** /ə'sɪrɪjən/ *adj or noun*

Ata-ca-ma Desert /,ætə'kɑ:mə/ – **the Atacama Desert** : desert in Chile

Ath-a-bas-ca *also* **Ath-a-bas-ka** /,æθə'bæskə/ – **the Athabasca River** *also* **the Athabaska** : river in Alberta, Canada

Ath-ens /'æθənz/

1 : U.S. city, Georgia

2 : city in Greece

– **Athe-nian** /ə'θɪnɪjən/ *adj or noun*

At-lan-ta /ət'læntə/ : U.S. city, Georgia – **At-lan-tan** /ət'læntən/ *adj or noun*

At-lan-tic /ət'læntɪk/ – **the Atlantic Ocean** *also* **the Atlantic** : ocean separating North America and South America from Europe and Africa – **Atlantic** *adj*

At-ti-ca /'ætɪkə/ : state in ancient Greece – **At-tic** /'ætɪk/ *adj*

Auck-land /'aːklænd/ : city in New Zealand – **Auck-land-er** /'aːklændə/ *noun*

Au-gus-ta /a'gʌstə/ : U.S. city, Georgia

Au-ro-ra /ə'rorə/

1 : U.S. city, Colorado

2 : U.S. city, Illinois

Ausch-witz /'aʊʃ,vɪts/ : site of a Nazi prison in Poland during World War II

Aus-tin /'aːstən/ : U.S. city, Texas

Aus-tral-asia /,aːstrə'leɪzə/ : Australia, Tasmania, New Zealand, and Melanesia – **Aus-tral-asian** /,aːstrə'leɪzən/ *adj or noun*

Aus-tra-lia /a'streɪljə/

1 : continent southeast of Asia

2 : country including the continent of Australia and the island of Tasmania

– **Aus-tra-lian** /a'streɪljən/ *adj or noun*

Aus-tria /'aːstrijə/ : country in Europe – **Aus-tri-an** /'aːstrijən/ *adj or noun*

Austria-Hungary : former country of central Europe – **Aus-tro-Hun-gar-i-an** /'aːsɪ,trou,hʌŋ'gerɪjən/ *adj or noun*

Aus-tro-ne-sia /,aːstrə'niːzə/ : islands of the southern Pacific Ocean – **Aus-tro-ne-sian** /,aːstrə'niːzən/ *adj or noun*

Ayers Rock /'erz/ : large rock formation in central Australia

Azer-bai-jan /,æzə,bai'dʒɑːn/ : country in Europe and Asia – **Azer-bai-ja-ni** /,æzə,bai'dʒɑːni/ *adj or noun*

Azores /'eɪ,zorz/ – **the Azores** : Portuguese islands in the Atlantic Ocean – **Azor-e-an** or **Azor-i-an** /eɪ'zɒrɪjən/ *adj or noun*

Azov, Sea of /'a,zɑːf/ – **the Sea of Azov** : part of the Black Sea

Bab-y-lon /'bæbə,lɑːn/ : city in ancient Asia in Babylonia – **Bab-y-lo-nian** /,bæbə'lounjən/ *adj or noun*

Bab-y-lo-nia /,bæbə'lounjə/ : country in ancient western Asia – **Bab-y-lo-nian** /,bæbə'lounjən/ *adj or noun*

Bac-tria /'bæktɪrɪə/ : country in ancient western Asia – **Bac-tri-an** /'bæktɪrɪjən/ *adj or noun*

Baf-fin /'bæfən/

1 **Baffin Bay** : part of the Atlantic Ocean

2 **Baffin Island** : island of Canada in the Arctic Archipelago

Bagh-dad /'bæg,dæd/ : city in Iraq

Ba-ha-mas /bə'hɑːməz/ – **the Bahamas** : island country in the Atlantic Ocean – **Ba-ha-mi-an** /bə'heimɪjən/ or **Ba-ha-man** /bə'heimən/ *adj or noun*

Bah-rain /bə'reɪn/ : island country in the Persian Gulf – **Bah-raini** /bə'reɪni/ *adj or noun*

Bai-kal, Lake /baɪ'kɑːl/ : lake in Russia

Ba-ja California /'bɑː,hɑː/ : area of Mexico

Ba-kers-field /'beɪkəz,fɪld/ : U.S. city, California

Ba-ku /bə'kuː/ : city in Azerbaijan

Bal-e-ar-ic Islands /,bæli'erɪk/ – **the Balearic Islands** : Spanish islands in the Mediterranean Sea

Ba-li /'bɑːli/ : island of Indonesia – **Ba-li-nese** /,bɑːlɪ'niːz/ *adj or noun*

Bal-kan /'bɑːlkən/

1 **the Balkan Peninsula** : area in southeastern Europe

2 **the Balkans** : countries in the Balkan Peninsula

Bal-khash, Lake /bæl'kæʃ/ : lake in Kazakhstan

Bal-tic /'bɑːltɪk/ – **the Baltic Sea** *also* **the Baltic** : part of the Atlantic Ocean – **Baltic** *adj*

Bal-ti-more /'bɑːltə,moʊ/ : U.S. city, Maryland – **Bal-ti-mor-e-an** /,bɑːltə'mɒrɪjən/ *noun*

Ba-ma-ko /,bɑːmə'kou/ : city in Mali

Ban-dung /'bɑːn,dʊŋ/ : city in Indonesia

Ban-ga-lore /'bæŋgə,lɔː/ : city in India

Bang-kok /'bæŋ,kɑːk/ : city in Thailand

Ban-gla-desh /,bɑːŋglə'deʃ/ : country in Asia – **Ban-gla-deshi** /,bɑːŋglə'deʃi/ *adj or noun*

Bar-ba-dos /bəə'beɪ,dɒs/ : island country in the West Indies – **Bar-ba-di-an** /bəə'beɪdɪjən/ *adj or noun*

Bar-ce-lo-na /,barsə'lounə/ : city in Spain

Ba-rents Sea /'berənts/ – **the Barents Sea** : part of the Arctic Ocean

Bar-ne-gat Bay /'bɑːnɪ,gæt/ : part of the Atlantic Ocean near the U.S. state of New Jersey

Bar-ran-qui-lla /,barən'kiːjə/ : city in Colombia

Bar-rie /'bəri/ : city in Ontario, Canada

Bar-row, Point /'berou/ : most northerly place in the U.S.

Basque Country /'bæsk/ : region of Spain – **Basque** *adj or noun*

Bat-on Rouge /,bætɒ'ruːʒ/ : U.S. city, Louisiana

Ba-var-ia /bə'verɪjə/ : state of Germany – **Ba-var-i-an** /bə'verɪjən/ *adj or noun*

Ba-ya-mon /,bajə'moun/ : U.S. city, Puerto Rico

Beau-fort Sea /'boufət/ – **the Beaufort Sea** : part of the Arctic Ocean

Beau-mont /'bou,mɑːnt/ : U.S. city, Texas

Beer-she-ba /biə'sfi:bə/ : town in Israel

Bei-jing /'beɪ'dʒɪŋ/ or **Pe-king** /'piː'kɪŋ/ : city in China

Bei-rut /ber'ruːt/ : city in Lebanon

Be-la-rus /,bilə'ruːs, ,bjelə'ruːs/ : country in Europe – **Be-la-ru-si-an** /,bilə'ruːsɪjən, ,bjelə'ruːsɪjən/ or **Be-la-rus-sian** /,bilə'rʌʃən, ,bjelə'rʌʃən/ *adj or noun*

Be-lém /be'lem/ : city in Brazil

Bel-fast /'bel,fæst, Brit 'bel,fɑːst/ : city in Northern Ireland

Bel-gium /'beldʒəm/ : country in Europe – **Bel-gian** /'beldʒən/ *adj or noun*

Bel-grade /'bel,greɪd, 'bel,grɑːd/ : city in Serbia

Be-lize /bə'liːz/ : country in Central America – **Be-liz-ean** /bə'liːzɪjən/ *adj or noun*

Belle-vue /'bel,vjuː/ : U.S. city, Washington

Be-lo Ho-ri-zon-te /'beɪlou,orə'zounti/ : city in Brazil
Ben-gal /bɛn'gɑ:l/ : region divided between Bangladesh and India – **Ben-gal-ese** /,bɛngə'li:z/ *adj or noun*
Bengal, Bay of – the Bay of Bengal : part of the Indian Ocean
Be-nin /bə'ni:n/ : country in Africa
 1 : country in Africa
 2 **the Bight of Benin** : part of the Gulf of Guinea
 – **Ben-i-nese** /bə'nɪn'i:z/ *adj or noun*
Ben Nev-is /ben'nevəs/ : mountain in Scotland
Be-ring /'bɪrɪŋ, 'berɪŋ/ :
 1 **the Bering Sea** : part of the northern Pacific Ocean
 2 **the Bering Strait** : narrow area of water between North America and Asia near the Bering Sea
Berke-ley /'bɜ:kli/ : U.S. city, California
Ber-lin /bə'lin/ : city in Germany – **Ber-lin-er** /bə'linə/ *noun*
Ber-mu-da /bə'mju:də/ : British islands in the Atlantic Ocean – **Ber-mu-dan** /bə'mju:dn/ *or* **Ber-mu-di-an** /bə'mju:dijən/ *adj or noun*
Bes-sa-ra-bia /,bɛsə'reɪbiə/ : region of southeastern Europe – **Bes-sa-ra-bi-an** /,bɛsə'reɪbiən/ *adj or noun*
Beth-le-hem /'beθli,hɛm/ : town in the West Bank
Bev-er-ly Hills /,bɛvəli'hɪlz/ : U.S. city, California
Bho-pal /bou'pɑ:l/ : city in India
Bhu-tan /bu'tɑ:n/ : country in Asia – **Bhu-ta-nese** /,bu:tə'ni:z/ *adj or noun*
Bi-a-fra /bi'ɑ:frə/ : region of western Africa – **Bi-a-fran** /bi'ɑ:frən/ *adj or noun*
Big Sur /'sɜ:/ : coastal region in the U.S., in California
Bi-loxi /bə'lɑksi/ : U.S. city, Mississippi
Bir-ming-ham
 1 /'bɜ-mɪŋ-,hæm/ : U.S. city, Alabama
 2 /'bɜ-mɪŋ-əm/ : city in England
Bis-cay, Bay of /'bɪ,sker/ – **the Bay of Biscay** : part of the Atlantic Ocean near Europe
Bis-cayne Bay /bɪ'skeɪn/ : part of the Atlantic Ocean near the U.S. state of Florida
Bi-thyn-ia /bə'θɪniə/ : country in ancient Asia Minor – **Bi-thyn-i-an** /bə'θɪniən/ *adj or noun*
Black Sea – the Black Sea : sea between Europe and Asia
Blanc, Mont see MONT BLANC
Blue Ridge – the Blue Ridge *also* **the Blue Ridge Mountains** : part of the Appalachian Mountains
Boe-o-tia /bi'oufijə/ : state of ancient Greece – **Boe-o-tian** /bi'oufən/ *adj or noun*
Bo-go-tá /,bouɡou'tɑ:/ : city in Colombia
Bo-he-mia /bou'himijə/ : region of the Czech Republic – **Bo-he-mi-an** /bou'himijən/ *adj or noun*
Boi-se /'boisi/ : U.S. city, Idaho
Bo-liv-ia /bə'lɪvijə/ : country in South America – **Bo-liv-i-an** /bə'lɪvijən/ *adj or noun*
Bom-bay /bɑ:m'beɪ/ *or* **Mum-bai** /'mʌm,bai/ : city in India
Bon-aire /bə'ner/ : Dutch island in the Caribbean Sea
Bon-ne-ville Salt Flats /'bʌnə,vɪl/ : region in the U.S., in Utah
Boo-thia /'bu:θijə/ : part of Canada
Bor-neo /'borni,ou/ : island divided between Brunei, Indonesia, and Malaysia
Bos-nia and Her-ze-go-vi-na /'bɑ:zniʒənd,heətsəɡou-'vi:nə/ : country in Europe
Bos-po-rus /'bɑ:spərəs/ – **the Bosphorus** : narrow area of water that connects the Sea of Marmara and the Black Sea
Bos-ton /'bɑ:stən/ : U.S. city, Massachusetts – **Bos-to-nian** /bɑ'stouniən/ *adj or noun*
Both-nia, Gulf of /'bɑ:θniə/ – **the Gulf of Bothnia** : part of the Baltic Sea
Bo-tswa-na /bat'swɑ:nə/ : country in Africa
Brah-ma-pu-tra /,brɑ:mə'pu:trə/ – **the Brahmaputra River** *also* **the Brahmaputra** : river in southern Asia
Bramp-ton /'bræmptən/ : city in Ontario, Canada
Bra-sí-lia /brə'ziljə/ : city in Brazil
Bra-zil /brə'zil/ : country in South America – **Bra-zil-ian** /brə'ziljən/ *adj or noun*
Bret-on, Cape /,keɪp'breɪn/ : part of Nova Scotia, Canada
Bridge-port /'brɪdʒ,po:rt/ : U.S. city, Connecticut
Brigh-ton /'brɑɪtən/ : town in England
Brit-ain /'brɪtən/

1 see GREAT BRITAIN 2

2 : UNITED KINGDOM

– **Brit-ish** /'brɪtɪʃ/ *adj or noun***British Columbia** : province of Canada**British Empire – the British Empire** : former empire consisting of Great Britain and the areas it controlled**British Isles – the British Isles** : Great Britain, Ireland, and nearby islands**Brit-ta-ny** /'brɪtəni/ : region of France**Bronx** /'brɑ:ŋks/ – **Bronx** *or* **the Bronx** : part of the U.S. city of New York, in the state of New York**Brook-lyn** /'brʊklən/ : part of the U.S. city of New York, in the state of New York**Browns-ville** /'braʊnz,vɪl/ : U.S. city, Texas**Bru-nei** /brʊ'nei/ : country in Asia – **Bru-nei-an** /brʊ'nejən/ *adj or noun***Bu-cha-rest** /'bu:kə'rest/ : city in Romania**Bu-da-pest** /'bu:də,pest/ : city in Hungary**Bue-nos Ai-res** /,bweɪnəs'erɪz/ : city in Argentina**Buf-fa-lo** /'bʌfə,lou/ : U.S. city, New York**Bul-gar-ia** /,bʌl'gerijə/ : country in Europe – **Bul-gar-i-an** /,bʌl'gerijən/ *adj or noun***Bur-bank** /'bɜ,bæŋk/ : U.S. city, California**Bur-gun-dy** /'bɜgəndi/ : region of France – **Bur-gun-di-an** /bɜ'gændijən/ *adj or noun***Bur-ki-na Fa-so** /buə'ki:nə'fɑ:sou/ : country in Africa**Bur-ling-ton** /'bɜlɪŋtən/ : city in Ontario, Canada**Burma** see MYANMAR – **Bur-mese** /,bɜ'mi:z/ *adj or noun***Bur-na-by** /'bɜnəbi/ : city in British Columbia, Canada**Bu-run-di** /bu'ru:ndi/ : country in Africa – **Bu-run-di-an** /bu'ru:ndiən/ *adj or noun***Busan** see PUSAN**By-zan-ti-um** /bə'zæntijəm/ : ancient city on the site of modern Istanbul, Turkey – **Byz-an-tine** /'bɪzɪ,ti:n/ *adj or noun***Cab-ot Strait** /'kæbət/ : narrow area of water connecting the St. Lawrence River with the Atlantic Ocean**Ca-guas** /'kɑ:ɡwɑ:s/ : U.S. town, Puerto Rico**Cai-ro** /'kaɪ,rou/ : city in Egypt – **Cai-rene** /kaɪ'ri:n/ *adj or noun***Ca-la-bria** /kə'leɪbriə/ : region in southern Italy – **Ca-la-bri-an** /kə'leɪbriən/ *adj or noun***Cal-cut-ta** /kæl'kʌtə/ *or* **Kol-ka-ta** /koul'kɑ:tɑ/ : city in India – **Cal-cut-tan** /kæl'kʌtən/ *adj or noun***Cal-e-do-nia** /,kælə'dounjə/ : Latin name for Scotland – **Cal-e-do-nian** /,kælə'dounjən/ *adj or noun***Cal-ga-ry** /'kælgəri/ : city in Alberta, Canada – **Cal-gar-i-an** /kæl'gerijən/ *noun***Ca-li** /'kɑ:li/ : city in Colombia**Cal-i-for-nia** /,kælə'foənjə/ : state of the U.S. – **Cal-i-for-nian** /,kælə'foənjən/ *adj or noun***California, Gulf of – the Gulf of California** : part of the Pacific Ocean**Cal-va-ry** /'kælvəri/ : place near ancient Jerusalem**Cam-bo-dia** /kæm'boudijə/ : country in Asia – **Cam-bo-di-an** /kæm'boudijən/ *adj or noun***Cam-bridge** /'keɪmbɪdʒ/

1 : U.S. city, Massachusetts

2 : city in England

Cam-er-oon /,kæmə'ru:n/ : country in Africa – **Cam-er-oo-nian** /,kæmə'ru:nijən/ *adj or noun***Cam-po-bel-lo** *or* **Campobello Island** /,kæmpə'be,lou/ : island of New Brunswick, Canada**Cam Ranh Bay** /'kɑ:m'rɑ:n/ : part of the China Sea near Vietnam**Ca-naan** /'keɪnən/ : region of ancient southwestern Asia – **Ca-naan-ite** /'keɪnə,nait/ *adj or noun***Can-a-da** /'kænədə/ : country in North America – **Ca-na-di-an** /kə'neɪdijən/ *adj or noun***Canal Zone – the Canal Zone** *or* **the Panama Canal Zone** : narrow area of land around the Panama Canal**Ca-nary Islands** /kə'neri/ – **the Canary Islands** : Spanish islands in the Atlantic Ocean**Ca-nav-er-al, Cape** /kə'nævɹəl/ : part of the U.S., in Florida**Can-cun** /,kæn'ku:n/ : vacation place in Mexico**Cannes** /'kæn/ : city in France**Can-ter-bury** /'kæntə,beri, Brit 'kæntəbri/ : city in England

Cape Bret-on Island /keɪp'brɛtn/ : island of Nova Scotia, Canada

Cape Cor-al /'kɒrəl/ : U.S. city, Florida

Cape Town /'keɪp,təʊn/ : city in the Republic of South Africa – **Cape-to-ni-an** /keɪp'tɔʊnɪjən/ *noun*

Cape Verde /'vəd/ : island country in the Atlantic Ocean – **Cape Verd-ean** /'vɜːrdɪjən/ *adj or noun*

Ca-pri /kæ'pri:/ : island of Italy

Ca-ra-cas /kə'rɑːkəs/ : city in Venezuela

Car-diff /'kɑːdɪf/ : city in Wales

Ca-rib-be-an /,kə'rɪbɪjən, kə'rɪbɪjən/ – **the Caribbean Sea** *also* **the Caribbean** : part of the Atlantic Ocean – **Caribbean** *adj*

Ca-rin-thia /kə'rɪnθɪjə/ : region of Europe – **Ca-rin-thi-an** /kə'rɪnθɪjən/ *adj or noun*

Carls-bad Caverns /'kɑːrlz,bæd/ : caves in the U.S., in New Mexico

Ca-ro-li-na /,kə'rəʊ'li:nə/ : U.S. city, Puerto Rico

Ca-ro-li-nas /,kə'rə'laɪnəz/ – **the Carolinas** : the U.S. states of North Carolina and South Carolina – **Car-o-lin-i-an** /,kə'rə'linɪjən/ *adj or noun*

Car-o-line Islands /'kə'rə,laɪn/ – **the Caroline Islands** : islands in the Pacific Ocean

Car-pa-thi-an /kə'pəθɪjən/ – **the Carpathian Mountains** *also* **the Carpathians** : mountains in Europe

Car-roll-ton /'kɜːrltən/ : U.S. city, Texas

Car-thage /'kɑːθɪdʒ/ : city in ancient northern Africa – **Car-tha-gin-ian** /,kə'θə'dʒɪnjən/ *adj or noun*

Ca-sa-blán-ca /,kæsə'blæŋkə/ : city in Morocco

Cas-cade /kæ'skeɪd/ – **the Cascade Range** *also* **the Cascades** : mountains in the U.S., in Washington, Oregon, and California

Cas-co Bay /'kæskəʊ/ : part of the Atlantic Ocean near the U.S. state of Maine

Cas-pi-an /'kæspɪjən/ – **the Caspian Sea** *also* **the Caspian** : salt lake between Europe and Asia

Cas-tile /kæ'sti:l/ : region of Spain – **Cas-til-ian** /kæ'stɪljən/ *adj or noun*

Cat-a-lo-nia /,kætə'lounjə/ : region of Spain – **Cat-a-lo-nian** /,kætə'lounjən/ *adj or noun*

Cats-kill /'kæt,skɪl/ – **the Catskill Mountains** *also* **the Catskills** : mountains in the U.S., in New York

Cau-ca-sia /kə'keɪzə/ : region of southeastern Europe – **Cau-ca-sian** /kə'keɪzən/ *adj or noun*

Cau-ca-sus Mountains /'kɑːkəsəs/ – **the Caucasus Mountains** : mountains between Europe and Asia

Cay-man /keɪ'mæn, 'keɪmən/ – **the Cayman Islands** *also* **the Caymans** : British islands in the West Indies

Cedar Rapids : U.S. city, Iowa

Ce-le-bes Sea /'selə,bɪz/ – **the Celebes Sea** : part of the Pacific Ocean

Central African Republic – **the Central African Republic** : country in Africa

Central America : narrow area of North America between Mexico and South America – **Central American** *adj or noun*

Cey-lon /sɪ'la:n/ : island in the Indian Ocean – **Cey-lon-ese** /,seɪlə'nɪz/ *adj or noun*

Chad /'tʃæd/ : country in Africa – **Chad-ian** /'tʃædɪjən/ *adj or noun*

Chal-dea /kæl'dɪjə/ : region of ancient southwestern Asia – **Chal-de-an** /kæl'dɪjən/ *adj or noun* – **Chal-dee** /'kæl,dɪ:/ *noun*

Cham-pagne /ʃæm'peɪn/ : region of France

Champlain, Lake /ʃæm'pleɪn/ : lake in the U.S. between New York and Vermont and in Quebec, Canada

Chan-dler /'tʃændlɜː/ : U.S. city, Arizona

Chang /'tʃɑːŋ/ *or* **Yang-tze** /'jæŋ'si:/ – **the Chang River** *or* **the Chang** *or* **the Yangtze River** *or* **the Yangtze** : river in China

Chang-chun /'tʃɑːŋ'tʃʊn/ : city in China

Chang-sha /'tʃɑːŋ'ʃɑː/ : city in China

Charleston /'tʃərəlstən/ : U.S. city, South Carolina

Char-lotte /'ʃɑːlət/ : U.S. city, North Carolina

Chat-ham-Kent /'tʃætəm'kent/ : city in Ontario, Canada

Chat-ta-hoo-chee /,tʃætə'hʊːtʃi/ – **the Chattahoochee River** *also* **the Chattahoochee** : river in the southeastern U.S.

Chat-ta-noo-ga /,tʃætə'nuːgə/ : U.S. city, Tennessee

Chech-nya /tʃetʃ'nja:/ : part of Russia – **Che-chen** /tʃɪ'tʃɛn/ *adj or noun*

Che-ly-a-binsk /tʃɛl'jɑːbənsk/ : city in Russia

Cheng-du /'tʃʌŋ'du:/ : city in China

Chennai *see* MADRAS

Cher-no-był /tʃə'noubəl/ : site in Ukraine

Ches-a-peake /'tʃesə,pɪk/

1 : U.S. city, Virginia

2 **Chesapeake Bay** : part of the Atlantic Ocean near the U.S. states of Virginia and Maryland

Chi-ca-go /ʃə'kɑːgou/ : U.S. city, Illinois – **Chi-ca-go-an** /ʃə'kɑːgowən/ *noun*

Chi-chén It-zá /tʃi,tʃɛnɪt'saː/ : site of the ruins of an important Mayan city in the Yucatán Peninsula, Mexico

Chi-le /'tʃɪli/ : country in South America – **Chil-ean** /'tʃɪlijən/ *adj or noun*

Chil-koot Pass /'tʃɪl,kʊt/ – **the Chilkoot Pass** : area between mountains in the U.S. state of Alaska and the Yukon Territory, Canada

Chi-na /'tʃaɪnə/

1 : country in Asia

2 **the China Sea** : part of the Pacific Ocean

Chit-ta-gong /'tʃɪtə,gɑːŋ/ : city in Bangladesh

Chong-king /'tʃʊŋ'kɪŋ/ : city in China

Chuk-chi Sea /'tʃʊk,tʃi:/ – **the Chukchi Sea** : part of the Arctic Ocean

Chu-la Vis-ta /,tʃu:lə'vɪstə/ : U.S. city, California

Chur-chill /'tʃʊ,tʃɪl/ – **the Churchill River** *also* **the Churchill** : river in Canada

Ci-li-cia /sə'lɪfɪjə/ : country in ancient Asia Minor – **Ci-li-cian** /sə'lɪfən/ *adj or noun*

Cin-cin-nati /,sɪnsə'næti/ : U.S. city, Ohio – **Cin-cin-nat-i-an** /,sɪnsə'næti-jən/ *noun*

Clarks-ville /'klɑːks,vɪl/ : U.S. city, Tennessee

Clear-wa-ter /'kliə,wɑːtə/ : U.S. city, Florida

Cleve-land /'kliːvlənd/ : U.S. city, Ohio – **Cleve-land-er** /'kliːvləndə/ *noun*

Co-lom-bia /kə'lɑːmbɪjə/ : country in South America – **Co-lom-bi-an** /kə'lɑːmbɪjən/ *adj or noun*

Col-o-ra-do /,kɑːlə'rædɔʊ, kɑːlə'rɑːdɔʊ/

1 : state of the U.S.

2 **the Colorado River** *also* **the Colorado** : river in the U.S. and Mexico

– **Col-o-rad-an** /,kɑːlə'rædən, kɑːlə'rɑːdən/ *or* **Co-lo-ra-do-an** /,kɑːlə'rædowən, kɑːlə'rɑːdowən/ *adj or noun*

Colorado Springs : U.S. city, Colorado

Co-lum-bia /kə'lɑːmbɪə/

1 : U.S. city, South Carolina

2 **the Columbia River** *also* **the Columbia** : river in the U.S. and Canada

3 **Columbia, District of** *see* DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

– **Co-lum-bi-an** /kə'lɑːmbɪən/ *adj or noun*

Co-lum-bus /kə'lɑːmbəs/

1 : U.S. city, Ohio

2 : U.S. city, Georgia

Com-o-ros /'kɑːmə,rouz/ : island country in the Indian Ocean

Con-cord /'kɑːn,kɒəd/ : U.S. city, California

Co-ney Island /'kəʊni/ : section of the U.S. city of New York, in the state of New York

Con-go /'kɑːŋgou/

1 **the Congo River** *also* **the Congo** *also* **the Zaire River** /zə'iə/ *also* **the Zaire** : river in Africa

2 *or* *officially* **the Democratic Republic of the Congo** : country in Africa

3 *or* *officially* **the Republic of the Congo** : country in Africa

– **Con-go-lese** /,kɑːŋgə'liːz/ *adj or noun*

Con-nect-i-cut /kə'netɪkət/

1 : state of the U.S.

2 **the Connecticut River** *also* **the Connecticut** : river in the northeastern U.S.

Constantinople *see* ISTANBUL

Co-pen-ha-gen /,kəʊpən'heɪɡən/ : city in Denmark – **Co-pen-ha-gen-er** /,kəʊpən'heɪɡənə/ *noun*

Co-quit-lam /kou'kwɪtləm/ : city in British Columbia, Canada

Coral Springs : U.S. city, Florida

Cór-do-ba /'koədəbə/ : city in Argentina
Cor-inth /'kɒrənθ/ : region of ancient Greece – **Co-rin-thi-an** /kə'rinθijən/ *adj or noun*
Co-ro-na /kə'rounə/ : U.S. city, California
Cor-pus Chris-ti /'kɒrpəs'krɪsti/ : U.S. city, Texas
Cor-si-ca /'kɒrsɪkə/ : French island in the Mediterranean Sea – **Cor-si-can** /'kɒrsɪkən/ *adj or noun*
Cos-ta del Sol /,kɒstədɛl'soʊl/ : region of Spain
Cos-ta Me-sa /'kɑːstə'meɪsə/ : U.S. city, California
Cos-ta Ri-ca /,kɑːstə'ri:kə/ : country in Central America – **Cos-ta Ri-can** /,kɑːstə'ri:kən/ *adj or noun*
Côte d'Ivoire see **IVORY COAST**
Co-zu-mel /,kɒsu'mɛl/ : island of Mexico
Crete /'kriːt/ : Greek island in the Mediterranean Sea – **Cre-tan** /'kriːtɪn/ *adj or noun*
Cri-mea /kræ'miːə/ : area of Ukraine – **Cri-me-an** /kræ'miːən/ *adj*
Cro-a-tia /krou'eɪʃə/ : country in Europe – **Croat** /'krou,æt/ *noun* – **Cro-a-tian** /krou'eɪʃən/ *adj or noun*
Cu-ba /'kjuːbə/ : island country in the West Indies – **Cu-ban** /'kjuːbən/ *adj or noun*
Cum-ber-land Gap /'kʌmbələnd/ – **the Cumberland Gap** : area between mountains in the U.S. state of Tennessee
Cu-ra-cao /,kʊrə'saʊ/ : Dutch island in the Caribbean Sea
Cu-ri-ti-ba /,kʊrə'tɪbə/ : city in Brazil
Cush /'kʌʃ/ : country in ancient northeastern Africa – **Cush-ite** /'kʌʃ,aɪt/ *noun* – **Cush-it-ic** /,kʌʃ'ɪtɪk/ *adj*
Cy-prus /'saɪprəs/ : island country in the Mediterranean Sea – **Cyp-ri-ot** /'sɪprɪjət/ *or* **Cyp-ri-ote** /'sɪprɪ,ɒt/ *adj or noun*
Cy-re-na-ica /,sɪrə'nejəkə/ : region of ancient northern Africa – **Cy-re-na-i-can** /,sɪrə'nejəkən/ *adj or noun*
Czech-o-slo-va-kia /,tʃɛkəslou'vɑːkɪjə/ : former country in central Europe – **Czecho-slo-vak** /,tʃɛkə'slou,vɑːk/ *adj or noun* – **Czecho-slo-va-ki-an** /,tʃɛkəslou'vɑːkɪjən/ *adj or noun*
Czech Republic /'tʃɛk/ – **the Czech Republic** : country in Europe
Daegu see **TAEJU**
Daejeon see **TAEJON**
Da-kar /dɑ'kɑːr/ : city in Senegal
Da-ko-tas /dɑ'kɒtəz/ – **the Dakotas** : the U.S. states of North Dakota and South Dakota – **Da-ko-tan** /dɑ'kɒtɪn/ *adj or noun*
Da-lian /'dɑː'liːən/ : city in China
Dal-las /'dæləs/ : U.S. city, Texas – **Dal-las-ite** /'dæləs,aɪt/ *noun*
Dal-ma-tia /dæl'meɪʃijə/ : region of the Balkan Peninsula – **Dal-ma-tian** /dæl'meɪʃən/ *adj or noun*
Da-ly City /'deɪli/ : U.S. city, California
Da-mas-cus /də'mæskəs/ : city in Syria
Dan-ube /'dæn,juːb/ – **the Danube River** *also* **the Danube** : river in Europe – **Da-nu-bi-an** /dæ'njuːbɪjən/ *adj*
Dar es Sa-laam /,dɑː,ɛssə'lɑːm/ : city in Tanzania
Dar-fur /dɑː'fʊə/ : region of Sudan
Dar-jee-ling /dɑː'ʃiːlɪŋ/ : city in India
Dar-ling /'dɑːlɪŋ/ – **the Darling River** *also* **the Darling** : river in Australia
Day-ton /'deɪtɪn/ : U.S. city, Ohio
Day-to-na Beach /deɪ'toʊnə/ : U.S. city, Florida
Dead Sea – the Dead Sea : salt lake between Israel and Jordan
Dear-born /'diə,bɔːn/ : U.S. city, Michigan
Death Valley : dry valley in the U.S., in California and Nevada
Del-a-ware /'dɛlə,wɛr/
 1 : state of the U.S.
 2 **the Delaware River** *also* **the Delaware** : river in the eastern U.S.
 3 **Delaware Bay** : area of the Atlantic Ocean near the U.S. states of New Jersey and Delaware
 – **Del-a-war-ean** *or* **Del-a-war-ian** /,dɛlə'wɛrɪjən/ *adj or noun*
Del-hi /'dɛli/ : city in India
Del-mar-va Peninsula /dɛl'mɑːvə/ – **the Delmarva Peninsula** : part of the U.S., in the states of Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia
Denali see **MCKINLEY, MOUNT**

Den-mark /'dɛn,mɑːk/ : country in Europe – **Dane** /'deɪn/ *noun* – **Dan-ish** /'deɪnɪʃ/ *adj*
Den-ver /'dɛnvər/ : U.S. city, Colorado
Des Moines /dɪ'mɔɪn/ : U.S. city, Iowa
De-troit /dɪ'troɪt/ : U.S. city, Michigan – **De-troit-er** /dɪ'troɪtər/ *noun*
Dha-ka /'dɑːkə/ : city in Bangladesh
Di-jon /di'ʒɒn/ : city in France
District of Co-lum-bia /kə'lʌmbɪjə/ – **the District of Co-lumbia** : area in the U.S. where the city of Washington is located
Dix-ie /'dɪksi/ : the 11 southern states of the U.S. which separated from the U.S. in 1860 and 1861
Dji-bou-ti /dʒə'buːti/ : country in Africa
Dnie-per /'niːpər/ – **the Dnieper River** *also* **the Dnieper** : river in Ukraine, Belarus, and Russia
Dni-pro-pe-trovs'k /də,njɛprəpə'truːfsk/ : city in Ukraine
Do-de-ca-nese /dou'dɛkə,nɪːz/ – **the Dodecanese** : Greek islands in the Aegean Sea
Dom-i-ni-ca /,dɑːmə'nɪ:kə/ : island country in the West Indies
Do-min-i-can Republic /də'mɪnɪkən/ – **the Dominican Republic** : country in the West Indies – **Dominican** *adj or noun*
Don /'dɑːn/ – **the Don River** *also* **the Don** : river in Russia
Do-nets'k /də'njɛtsk/ : city in Ukraine
Do-ver /'dɒvər/ : port in England
Dow-ney /'daʊni/ : U.S. city, California
Du-bayy /du'baɪ/ *or* **Du-bai** : part of the United Arab Emirates
Dub-lin /'dʌblən/ : city in Ireland – **Dub-lin-er** /'dʌblənər/ *noun*
Du-luth /də'luːθ/ : U.S. city, Minnesota
Dur-ham /'dərəm/ : U.S. city, North Carolina
Eastern Hemisphere – the Eastern Hemisphere : the half of the Earth that is east of the Atlantic Ocean
East Sea – the East Sea : Korean name for the Sea of Japan
East Timor : country in Asia
Ec-ua-dor /'ɛkwə,dɒər/ : country in South America – **Ec-ua-dor-an** /,ɛkwə'dɒrən/ *or* **Ec-ua-dor-ean** *or* **Ec-ua-dor-ian** /,ɛkwə'dɒrɪjən/ *adj or noun*
Ed-in-burgh /'ɛdn,bərə/ : city in Scotland
Ed-mon-ton /'ɛdməntən/ : city in Alberta, Canada – **Ed-mon-to-ni-an** /,ɛdmən'tɒnɪjən/ *noun*
Egypt /'iːdʒɪpt/ : country in Africa and the Sinai Peninsula of Asia – **Egyp-tian** /iːdʒɪpʃən/ *adj or noun*
Eire see **IRELAND 1**
Elam /'iːləm/ : country in ancient southwestern Asia – **Elam-ite** /'iːlə,mɑɪt/ *noun*
El-ba /'ɛlbə/ : Italian island in the Mediterranean Sea
El-bert, Mount /'ɛlbət/ : mountain in the U.S., in Colorado
El-brus, Mount /ɛl'bruːz/ : mountain in Russia on the border of the Republic of Georgia
El-gin /'ɛldʒən/ : U.S. city, Illinois
Eliz-a-beth /ɪ'lɪzəbəθ/ : U.S. city, New Jersey
Elles-mere Island /'ɛlz,mɪər/ : island of Canada in the Arctic Archipelago
El-lis Island /'ɛləs/ : island of the U.S., in New York
El Mon-te /ɛl'mɑːnti/ : U.S. city, California
El Paso /ɛl'pæsəʊ/ : U.S. city, Texas – **El Paso-an** /ɛl'pæsəwən/ *noun*
El Sal-va-dor /ɛl'sælvə,dɒər/ : country in Central America – **Sal-va-dor-an** /sælvə'dɒrən/ *adj or noun*
En-gland /'ɪŋɡlənd/ : part of the United Kingdom – **En-glish** /'ɪŋɡlɪʃ/ *adj or noun*
English Channel – the English Channel : part of the Atlantic Ocean between France and the United Kingdom
Equatorial Guinea : country in Africa
Erie /'ɪri/
 1 : U.S. city, Pennsylvania
 2 **Lake Erie** : lake in the U.S. and Canada
Er-in /'erən/ : literary name for Ireland
Er-i-trea /,erə'triːə/ : country in Africa – **Er-i-tre-an** /,erə'triːən/ *adj or noun*
Es-con-di-do /,ɛskən'diːdou/ : U.S. city, California
Es-fa-han /,ɛsfə'hɑːn/ : city in Iran

Es-to-nia /ɛ'stounijə/ : country in Europe – **Es-to-nian** /ɛ'stounjən/ *adj or noun*

Ethi-o-pia /i:θi'oupijə/ *or formerly* **Ab-ys-sin-ia** /æbə'sinjə/ : country in Africa – **Ethi-o-pi-an** /i:θi'oupijən/ *adj or noun*

Et-na, Mount /'ɛtnə/ : volcano in Italy, in Sicily

Eu-gene /ju'dʒi:n/ : U.S. city, Oregon

Eu-phra-tes /ju'freɪ,tɪz/ – **the Euphrates River** *also the Euphrates* : river in Asia

Eur-asia /ju'reɪzə/ : land area consisting of Europe and Asia – **Eur-asian** /ju'reɪzən/ *adj or noun*

Eu-robe /'jʊrəp/ : continent of the Eastern Hemisphere – **European** *adj or noun*

European Union – the European Union : an economic, scientific, and political organization of some European countries

Ev-ans-ville /'evənz,vɪl/ : U.S. city, Indiana

Ev-er-est or Mount Everest /'evrəst/ : mountain in Asia

Ev-er-ett /'evrət/ : U.S. city, Washington

Ev-er-glades /'evə,gleɪdz/ – **the Everglades** : swamp region of the U.S., in Florida

Faer-oe Islands or Far-oe Islands /'ferou/ – **the Faeroe Islands or the Faroe Islands or the Faeroes or the Faroes** : Danish islands in the Atlantic Ocean – **Faero-ese** /,ferə'wi:z/ *adj or noun*

Fai-sa-la-bad /,faɪ,sɑ:lə'bɑ:d/ : city in Pakistan

Falk-land /'fɑ:klənd/ – **the Falkland Islands** *also the Falklands or Spanish Is-las Mal-vi-nas* /,l:slasmal-'vi:nɑ:s/ *or the Malvinas* : British islands in the Atlantic Ocean near Argentina

Far East – the Far East : the countries of eastern Asia and the Malay Archipelago – **Far Eastern** *adj*

Fa-ri-da-bad /fa'ri:da,bɑ:d/ : town in India

Fay-ette-ville /'feɪət,vɪl, 'fɛdvəl/ : U.S. city, North Carolina

Fi-ji /'fi:dʒi/ : island country in the Pacific Ocean – **Fi-ji-an** /'fi:dʒijən/ *adj or noun*

Fin-land /'fɪnlənd/ : country in Europe – **Finn** /'fɪn/ *noun* – **Finn-ish** /'fɪnɪʃ/ *adj*

Flan-ders /'flændəz/

1 : region of Belgium and France

2 : region of Belgium

Flint /'flɪnt/ : U.S. city, Michigan

Flor-ence /'florəns/ : city in Italy – **Flor-en-tine** /'florən-'ti:n/ *adj or noun*

Flor-i-da /'florədə, 'flarədə/

1 : state of the U.S.

2 **the Straits of Florida** : area of water connecting the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Ocean

3 **the Florida Keys** : group of islands in the U.S., in Florida

– **Flo-rid-i-an** /flə'rɪdijən/ *or* **Flor-i-dan** /'florədən, 'flarədən/ *adj or noun*

Fon-tana /fan'tænə/ : U.S. city, California

For-ta-le-za /,foətə'leɪzə/ : city in Brazil

Fort Col-lins /'kɑ:lənz/ : U.S. city, Colorado

Fort Knox /'nɑ:ks/ : military area in the U.S., in Kentucky

Fort Lau-der-dale /'lɑ:də,deɪl/ : U.S. city, Florida

Fort Wayne /'weɪn/ : U.S. city, Indiana

Fort Worth /'wəθ/ : U.S. city, Texas

France /'fræns/ : country in Europe – **French** /'frentʃ/ *adj or noun*

Fra-ser /'freɪzə/ – **the Fraser River** *also the Fraser* : river in British Columbia, Canada

Fre-mont /'fri:mənt/ : U.S. city, California

French Guiana : part of France in South America

Fres-no /'frez,nou/ : U.S. city, California

Fro-bi-sheer Bay /'froubɪʃə/ : part of the Atlantic Ocean near northern Canada

Fu-ji or Mount Fuji /'fu:dʒi/ : mountain in Japan

Fu-ku-o-ka /,fu:ku'ouka/ : city in Japan

Ful-ler-ton /'fulətən/ : U.S. city, California

Fun-dy, Bay of /'fʌndi/ – **the Bay of Fundy** : area of the Atlantic Ocean between New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, Canada

Fu-shun /'fu:'ʃʊn/ : city in China

Ga-bon /gə'boun/ : country in Africa – **Gab-o-nese** /,gəbə'nɪ:z/ *adj or noun*

Gads-den Purchase /'gædzdən/ – **the Gadsden Purchase** : area of the U.S. purchased in 1853 from Mexico

Gaines-ville /'geɪnz,vɪl/ : U.S. city, Florida

Ga-lá-pa-gos /gə'la:pəgəs/ – **the Galapagos Islands** *also the Galapagos* : islands of Ecuador in the Pacific Ocean

Ga-la-tia /gə'leɪfijə/ : country in ancient Asia Minor – **Ga-la-tian** /gə'leɪfən/ *adj or noun*

Ga-li-cia /gə'li:fijə/

1 : region in Poland and Ukraine

2 : region in Spain

– **Ga-li-cian** /gə'li:fən/ *adj or noun*

Gal-i-lee /'gælə,li:/

1 : region of Israel

2 **the Sea of Galilee** : lake in Israel on the border of Syria

– **Gal-i-le-an** /,gælə'li:jən/ *adj or noun*

Gal-ves-ton Bay /'gælvəstən/ : part of the Gulf of Mexico near the U.S. state of Texas

Gam-bia /'gæmbijə/ : country in Africa – **Gam-bi-an** /'gæmbijən/ *adj or noun*

Gan-ges /'gæŋ,dʒi:z/ – **the Ganges River** *also the Gan-ges* : river in India – **Gan-get-ic** /gæŋ'dʒetɪk/ *adj*

Garden Grove : U.S. city, California

Gar-land /'gɑələnd/ : U.S. city, Texas

Gary /'geri/ : U.S. city, Indiana

Gas-co-ny /'gæskəni/ : region of France – **Gas-con** /'gæskən/ *adj or noun*

Gas-pé Peninsula /gæ'speɪ/ – **the Gaspé Peninsula** : part of Quebec, Canada – **Gas-pe-sian** /gæ'spi:jən/ *adj or noun*

Gat-i-neau /,gætə'nou/ : town in Quebec, Canada

Gaul /'gɑ:l/ : country of ancient western Europe

Ga-za Strip /'gɑ:zə/ – **the Gaza Strip** : area on the eastern coast of the Mediterranean Sea – **Ga-zan** /'gɑ:zən/ *adj or noun*

Ge-ne-va /dʒə'ni:və/ : city in Switzerland – **Ge-ne-van** /dʒə'ni:vən/ *adj or noun* – **Gen-e-ve-se** /,dʒenə'vi:z/ *adj or noun*

Gen-oa /'dʒenowə/ : city in Italy – **Gen-o-ese** /,dʒeno'wi:z/ *or* **Gen-o-ve-se** /,dʒenə'viz/ *adj or noun*

George-town /'dʒoəɢ,taun/ : section of the U.S. city of Washington, in the District of Columbia

Geor-gia /'dʒoəɢə/

1 : state of the U.S.

2 *or the Republic of Georgia* : country in Asia on the border with Europe

– **Geor-gian** /'dʒoəɢən/ *adj or noun*

Georgian Bay : part of Lake Huron near Ontario, Canada

Ger-ma-ny /'dʒəməni/ : country in Europe – **Ger-man** /'dʒəmən/ *adj or noun*

Get-tys-burg /'getɪz,bəɢ/ : U.S. town, Pennsylvania

Gha-na /'gɑ:nə/ : country in Africa – **Gha-na-ian** /gɑ'neɪən/ *or* **Gha-ni-an** /'gɑ:nijən/ *adj or noun*

Gi-bral-tar /dʒə'brɑ:ltə/

1 : British colony on the coast of Spain

2 **the Rock of Gibraltar** : part of Gibraltar

– **Gi-bral-tar-i-an** /dʒə'brɑ:ltəri:jən/ *noun*

Gil-bert /'gɪlbət/ : U.S. town, Arizona

Gil-e-ad /'gɪlijəd/ : region of ancient Palestine

Gi-za /'gi:zə/ : city in Egypt

Glas-gow /'glæ,skou/ : city in Scotland – **Glas-we-gian** /glæs'wi:ɢən/ *adj or noun*

Glen-dale /'glen,deɪl/

1 : U.S. city, Arizona

2 : U.S. city, California

Go-bi /'goubi/ – **the Gobi Desert** *also the Gobi* : desert in Mongolia and China

Go-lan Heights /'gou,lɑ:n/ – **the Golan Heights** : region of hills in the Middle East

Golden Gate – the Golden Gate : area of water connecting San Francisco Bay with the Pacific Ocean

Go-mor-rah /gə'morə/ : city in the ancient Middle East

Gond-wa-na-land /gən'dwɑ:nə,lænd/ : a large area of land that is believed to have existed long ago and to have consisted of the lands of the Southern Hemisphere and India

Goth-am /'gɑ:θəm/ : informal name for the U.S. city of New York, in the state of New York – **Goth-am-ite** /'gɑ:θə,mart/ *noun*

Grand Canyon – the Grand Canyon : large and deep valley in the U.S., in Arizona

Grand Cou-lee Dam /'ku:li/ : dam in the U.S., on the Columbia River in Washington

Grande, Rio see RIO GRANDE

Grand Prairie : U.S. city, Texas

Grand Rapids : U.S. city, Michigan

Great Barrier Reef – the Great Barrier Reef : coral reef off the coast of Australia

Great Basin – the Great Basin : region of the western U.S.

Great Britain

1 : UNITED KINGDOM

2 : island consisting of England, Scotland, and Wales

Greater Antilles – the Greater Antilles : group of islands in the West Indies

Greater Sudbury see SUDBURY, GREATER

Great Lakes – the Great Lakes : Lakes Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie, and Ontario

Great Plains – the Great Plains : region in the U.S. and Canada

Great Rift Valley – the Great Rift Valley : long valley in Asia and Africa

Great Salt Lake – the Great Salt Lake : lake in the U.S., in Utah

Great Smoky Mountains – the Great Smoky Mountains : mountains in the U.S., in North Carolina and Tennessee

Greece /'gri:s/ : country in Europe – **Gre-cian** /'gri:fən/ *adj* – **Greek** /'gri:k/ *adj or noun*

Green Bay

1 : U.S. city, Wisconsin

2 : part of Lake Michigan

Green-land /'gri:nlənd/ : Danish island in the Atlantic Ocean – **Green-land-er** /'gri:nləndə/ *noun*

Greens-boro /'gri:nz,bərou/ : U.S. city, North Carolina

Green-wich /'grɪnɪdʒ/ : part of the city of London, in the United Kingdom

Gre-na-da /grə'neɪdə/ : island country in the West Indies – **Gre-na-dan** /grə'neɪdən/ *adj or noun* – **Gre-na-di-an** /grə'neɪdijən/ *adj or noun*

Gresh-am /'grɛʃəm/ : U.S. city, Oregon

Gua-da-la-jara /,gwa:dələ'hara/ : city in Mexico

Gua-de-loupe /'gwa:də,lup/ : French island in the West Indies – **Gua-de-lou-pe-an** /,gwa:də'lupijən/ *noun*

Guam /'gwa:m/ : U.S. island in the Pacific Ocean – **Gua-ma-ni-an** /gwa'meɪnɪjən/ *adj or noun*

Guang-zhou /'gwa:ŋ'dʒou/ : city in China

Guan-tá-na-mo Bay /gwan'ta:nɑ,mou/ : part of the Caribbean Sea near Cuba

Gua-te-ma-la /,gwa:tə'mɑ:lə/ : country in Central America – **Gua-te-ma-lan** /,gwa:tə'mɑ:lən/ *adj or noun*

Gua-ya-quil /,gwajə'ki:l/ : city in Ecuador

Guay-na-bo /gwaɪ'nɑ:bou/ : U.S. city, Puerto Rico

Guelph /'gwɛlf/ : city in Ontario, Canada

Gui-a-na /gi'ænə/ : region of South America – **Gui-a-nan** /gi'ænən/ *adj or noun*

Guin-ea /'gɪni/

1 : country in Africa

2 the Gulf of Guinea : part of the Atlantic Ocean

– **Guin-ean** /'gɪnɪjən/ *adj or noun*

Guin-ea-Bis-sau /,gɪnɪbɪ'sau/ : country in Africa

Gui-yang /'gwɛɪ'jɑ:ŋ/ : city in China

Guj-ran-wala /,gu:ɖrən'wɑ:lə/ : city in Pakistan

Gulf Stream – the Gulf Stream : current of warm water in the Atlantic Ocean

Guy-ana /gaɪ'ænə/ : country in South America – **Guy-a-nese** /,gajə'ni:z/ *adj or noun*

Gwangju see KWANGJU

Hai-nan /'haɪ'nɑ:n/ : island of China

Hai-ti /'heɪti/ : country in the West Indies – **Hai-tian** /'heɪfən/ *adj or noun*

Hal-i-fax /'hælə,fæks/ : city in Nova Scotia, Canada – **Hal-i-go-ni-an** /,hælə'gounɪjən/ *noun*

Ham-burg /'hæm,bæg, 'hɑ:m,buæg/ : city in Germany – **Ham-burg-er** /'hæm,bægə, 'hɑ:m,buægə/ *noun*

Ham-il-ton /'hæməltən/ : city in Ontario, Canada

Hamp-ton /'hæmptən/ : U.S. city, Virginia

Hang-zhou /'hɑ:ŋ'dʒou/ : city in China

Ha-noi /hæ'noi/ : city in Vietnam

Ha-ra-re /hə'ra:,rei/ : city in Zimbabwe

Har-bin /'hɑ:bən/ : city in China

Har-lem /'hɑ:ləm/ : part of the U.S. city of New York, in the state of New York

Har-ris-burg /'herəs,bæg/ : U.S. city, Pennsylvania

Hart-ford /'hɑ:tfəd/ : U.S. city, Connecticut

Hat-ter-as, Cape /'hætərəs/ : part of the U.S., in North Carolina

Ha-vana /hə'vænə/ : city in Cuba

Ha-waii /hə'waji/

1 : state of the U.S. consisting of a group of islands in the Pacific Ocean

2 : largest island of the state of Hawaii

– **Ha-wai-ian** /hə'wajən/ *adj or noun*

Hay-ward /'herwəd/ : U.S. city, California

Heb-ri-des /'hebrə,dɪz/ – **the Hebrides** : islands of Scotland in the Atlantic Ocean – **Heb-ri-de-an** /,hebrə'dijən/ *adj or noun*

Hel-ve-tia /hel'vi:fijə/ : Latin name for Switzerland

Hen-der-son /'hendəsən/ : U.S. city, Nevada

Henry, Cape /'henri/ : part of the U.S., in Virginia

Hi-a-le-ah /,hajə'lijə/ : U.S. city, Florida

Hi-ber-nia /haɪ'bənɪjə/ : Latin name for Ireland – **Hi-ber-ni-an** /haɪ'bənɪjən/ *adj or noun*

High-lands /'haɪləndz/ – **the Highlands** : mountains in northern Scotland

Hil-ton Head Island /'hɪltən'hed/ : island of U.S., in South Carolina

Hi-ma-la-yas /,hɪmə'leɪz/ – **the Himalayas** or **the Himalaya** /,hɪmə'leɪ/ : mountains in Asia – **Hi-ma-la-yan** /,hɪmə'leɪjən/ *adj*

Hin-du Kush /'hɪn,du:'kʊʃ/ : mountains in Asia

Hi-ro-shi-ma /,hɪrə'ʃi:mə/ : city in Japan

His-pan-io-la /,hɪspən'joulə/ : island divided between Haiti and the Dominican Republic

Ho Chi Minh City /'hou,ʃi:'mɪn/ or formerly **Sai-gon** /saɪ'gɑ:n/ : city in Vietnam

Hok-kai-do /hə'kaɪdou/ : island of Japan

Hol-land /'hɑ:lənd/ see NETHERLANDS – **Hol-land-er** /'hɑ:ləndə/ *noun*

Hol-ly-wood /'hɑ:li,wʊd/

1 : part of the U.S. city of Los Angeles, in California

2 : U.S. city, Florida

Hon-du-ras /hɑ:n'dərəs/ : country in Central America – **Hon-du-ran** /hɑ:n'dərən/ *adj or noun*

Hong Kong /'hɑ:ŋ,kɑ:ŋ/ or **Xiang-gang** /'ʃjɑ:ŋ,gɑ:ŋ/ : region of China – **Hong Kong-er** /'hɑ:ŋ'kɑ:ŋə/ *noun*

Ho-no-lu-lu /,hɑ:nə'lu:lu/ : U.S. city, Hawaii

Hon-shu /'hɑ:n,ʃu:/ : island of Japan

Hoover Dam /'hu:və/ : dam in the U.S. on the Colorado River between Nevada and Arizona

Hous-ton /'hju:stən/ : U.S. city, Texas – **Hous-to-nian** /hju'stounɪjən/ *noun*

How-rah /'haurə/ : city in India

Huang Ho /'hwa:ŋ'hou/ – **the Huang Ho** : river in China

Hud-son /'hʌdsən/

1 the Hudson River also the Hudson : U.S. river, in New York

2 Hudson Bay : part of the Atlantic Ocean near Canada

Hun-ga-ry /'hʌŋgəri/ : country in Europe – **Hun-gar-i-an** /,hʌŋ'gerɪjən/ *adj or noun*

Hun-ting-ton Beach /'hʌntɪŋtən/ : U.S. city, California

Hunts-ville /'hʌnts,vɪl/ : U.S. city, Alabama

Hu-ron, Lake /'hjə,rɑ:n/ : lake in the U.S. and Canada

Hy-der-a-bad /'haɪdərə,bæd/

1 : city in India

2 : city in Pakistan

Iba-dan /ɪ'bɑ:dən/ : city in Nigeria

Ibe-ria /aɪ'berɪjə/ – **Iberia** or **the Ibe-ri-an Peninsula** /aɪ'berɪjən/ : area of land where Spain and Portugal are located

Ice-land /'aɪslənd/ : island country in Europe – **Ice-land-er** /'aɪs,lændə/ *noun* – **Ice-lan-dic** /aɪs'lændɪk/ *adj*

Ida-ho /'aɪdə,hou/ : state of the U.S. – **Ida-ho-an** /,aɪdə'howən/ *adj or noun*

Il-li-nois /,ɪlə'noi/ : state of the U.S. – **Il-li-nois-an** /,ɪlə'nojən/ *adj or noun*

Il-lyr-ia /ɪˈlɪrɪjə/ : country in ancient Europe – **Il-lyr-i-an** /ɪˈlɪrɪjən/ *adj or noun*
Im-pe-ri-al Valley /ɪmˈpɪrɪjəl/ – **the Imperial Valley** : valley in the U.S. and Mexico
In-chon or **Incheon** /ˈɪn,tʃʌn/ : city in South Korea
In-de-pen-dence /,ɪndəˈpendənts/ : U.S. city, Missouri
In-dia /ˈɪndijə/ : country in Asia – **In-di-an** /ˈɪndijən/ *adj or noun*
Indian Ocean – the Indian Ocean : ocean east of Africa, south of Asia, west of Australia, and north of Antarctica
In-di-ana /,ɪndiˈænə/ : state of the U.S. – **In-di-an-an** /,ɪndiˈænən/ or **In-di-an-i-an** /,ɪndiˈæniən/ *adj or noun*
In-di-a-nap-o-lis /,ɪndiəˈnæpələs/ : U.S. city, Indiana
In-do-chi-na /,ɪn,douˈtʃaɪnə/
1 : land area including Myanmar, the Malay Peninsula, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam
2 : former country of Asia
– **In-do-Chi-nese** /,ɪn,douˈtʃaɪnɪz/ *adj or noun*
In-do-ne-sia /,ɪndəˈniːzə/ : country in Asia – **In-do-ne-sian** /,ɪndəˈniːzən/ *adj or noun*
In-dore /ɪnˈdoʊ/ : city in India
In-dus /ˈɪndəs/ – **the Indus River** *also* **the Indus** : river in Asia
In-gle-wood /ˈɪŋɡəl,wʊd/ : U.S. city, California
Inside Passage – the Inside Passage : shipping route that extends from the U.S. state of Washington, along the coast of Canada, to the U.S. state of Alaska
Io-wa /ˈajəwə/ : state of the U.S. – **Io-wan** /ˈajəwən/ *adj or noun*
Iran /ɪˈrɑːn, ɪˈræn/ : country in Asia – **Ira-ni-an** /ɪˈreɪniən/ *adj or noun*
Iraq /ɪˈrɑːk, ɪˈræk/ : country in Asia – **Iraqi** /ɪˈrɑːki, ɪˈræki/ *adj or noun*
Ire-land /ˈajələnd/
1 or **Ei-re** /ˈerə/ : country in Europe
2 : European island in the Atlantic Ocean
3 **Northern Ireland** *see* **NORTHERN IRELAND**
– **Irish** /ˈaɪrɪʃ/ *adj*
Ir-ra-wad-dy /,ɪrəˈwɑːdi/ – **the Irrawaddy River** *also* **the Irrawaddy** : river in Myanmar
Ir-tysh /ɪəˈtɪʃ/ – **the Irtysh River** *also* **the Irtysh** : river in Asia
Ir-vine /ˈə,vain/ : U.S. city, California
Ir-ving /ˈə,vɪŋ/ : U.S. city, Texas
Islas Malvinas *see* **FALKLAND**
Is-ra-el /ˈɪzrijəl/
1 : country in Asia
2 : kingdom in ancient Palestine
3 : northern part of the Hebrew kingdom after about 933 B.C.
– **Is-rae-li** /ɪzˈreɪli/ *adj or noun*
Is-tan-bul /,ɪstənˈbuːl/ or *formerly* **Con-stan-ti-no-ple** /,kɑːn,stæntəˈnoupəl/ : city in Turkey
Is-tria /ˈɪstrijə/ – **Istria** or **the Istrian Peninsula** : part of Croatia and Slovenia – **Is-tri-an** /ˈɪstrijən/ *adj or noun*
It-a-ly /ˈɪtəli/ : country in Europe – **Ital-ian** /ɪˈtæljən/ *adj or noun*
Itas-ca, Lake /aɪˈtæskə/ : lake in the U.S., in Minnesota
Ivory Coast or **Côte d'Ivoire** /,koutdiˈvwə/ : country in Africa – **Ivor-i-an** /aɪˈvorɪjən/ *adj or noun* – **Ivory Coaster** *noun*
Iwo Ji-ma /,i,wouˈdʒi:mə/ : Japanese island in the Pacific Ocean
Iz-mir /ɪzˈmiə/ : city in Turkey
Jack-son /ˈdʒæksən/ : U.S. city, Mississippi
Jack-son-ville /ˈdʒæksən,vɪl/ : U.S. city, Florida
Ja-kar-ta /dʒəˈkɑːtə/ : city in Indonesia
Ja-mai-ca /dʒəˈmeɪkə/ : island country in the West Indies
– **Ja-mai-can** /dʒəˈmeɪkən/ *adj or noun*
James-town /ˈdʒeɪmz,təʊn/ : ruins in the U.S. of the first permanent English settlement in America, in Virginia
Ja-pan /dʒəˈpæn/
1 : island country in Asia
2 **the Sea of Japan** : part of the Pacific Ocean
– **Jap-a-nese** /,dʒæpəˈniːz/ *adj or noun*
Ja-va /ˈdʒɑːvə/ : island of Indonesia – **Ja-van** /ˈdʒɑːvən/ *adj or noun* – **Ja-va-nese** /,dʒɑːvəˈniːz/ *noun*
Jer-i-cho /ˈdʒeri,kou/ : city in ancient Palestine

Jer-sey /ˈdʒæzi/ : British island in the English Channel – **Jer-sey-ite** /ˈdʒæzi,aɪt/ *noun*
Jersey City : U.S. city, New Jersey
Je-ru-sa-lem /dʒəˈruːsələm/ : city in the Middle East
Ji-lin /ˈdʒiːˈlɪn/ : city in China
Ji-nan /ˈdʒiːˈnɑːn/ : city in China
Jo-han-nes-burg /dʒouˈhænəs,bərg/ : city in the Republic of South Africa
Jo-li-et /,dʒouliˈet/ : U.S. city, Illinois
Jor-dan /ˈdʒoʊdɒn/
1 : country in Asia
2 **the Jordan River** *also* **the Jordan** : river in Israel and Jordan
– **Jor-da-ni-an** /dʒoʊˈdeɪniən/ *adj or noun*
Juan de Fu-ca, Strait of /,wɑːndəˈfjuːkə/ – **the Strait of Juan de Fuca** : area of water between British Columbia, Canada, and the U.S. state of Washington
Ju-daea or **Ju-dea** /dʒuˈdiə/ : region of ancient Palestine
– **Ju-dae-an** or **Ju-de-an** /dʒuˈdiən/ *adj or noun*
Jut-land /ˈdʒʌtlənd/ : part of northern Europe
Ka-bul /ˈkɑːbəl, kəˈbuːl/ : city in Afghanistan
Kal-a-ha-ri /,kæləˈhəri/ – **the Kalahari Desert** *also* **the Kalahari** : desert region of southern Africa
Kam-chat-ka Peninsula /kæmˈtʃætke/ : part of eastern Russia
Kan-pur /ˈkɑːn,pʊə/ : city in India
Kan-sas /ˈkænzəs/ : state of the U.S. – **Kan-san** /ˈkænzən/ *adj or noun*
Kansas City
1 : U.S. city, Kansas
2 : U.S. city, Missouri
Ka-ra-chi /kəˈrɑːtʃi/ : city in Pakistan
Kar-a-ko-ram Pass /,kərəˈkɒrəm/ : area between mountains in Kashmir
Ka-ra Sea /ˈkərə/ – **the Kara Sea** : part of the Arctic Ocean
Ka-re-lia /kəˈriːliə/ : region of Europe – **Ka-re-lian** /kəˈriːliən/ *adj or noun*
Karst /ˈkɑːst/ : area in Slovenia and Italy
Kash-mir /ˈkæʃ,mɪə/ : region in Asia – **Kash-miri** /kæʃˈmɪri/ *adj or noun*
Ka-tah-din, Mount /kəˈtɑːdn/ : mountain in the U.S., in Maine
Kau-ai /kəˈwɑːi/ : island of the U.S., in Hawaii
Ka-wa-sa-ki /,kɑːwɑːsɑːki/ : city in Japan
Ka-zakh-stan /,kɑːzɑːkˈstɑːn/ : country in Asia – **Ka-zakh** /kəˈzɑːk/ *noun*
Ka-zan /kəˈzæn/ : city in Russia
Ke-low-na /kəˈlouənə/ : city in British Columbia, Canada
Ke-no-sha /kəˈnouʃə/ : U.S. city, Wisconsin
Ken-tucky /kənˈtʌki/ : state of the U.S. – **Ken-tucki-an** /kənˈtʌkiən/ *adj or noun*
Ken-ya /ˈkenjə, ˈkiːnjə/ : country in Africa – **Ken-yan** /ˈkenjən, ˈkiːnjən/ *adj or noun*
Ke-wee-naw Peninsula /ˈkiːwəˈnɑː/ – **the Keweenaw Peninsula** : area of the U.S., in Michigan
Khar-kiv /ˈkɑːkəf/ : city in Ukraine
Khar-toum /kɑːˈtuːm/ : city in Sudan
Ki-ev /ˈkiːɛf, ˈkiːɛv/ : city in Ukraine
Ki-lau-ea /,kiːˈlɑːˈweɪ/ : volcano in the U.S., in Hawaii
Kil-i-man-ja-ro or **Mount Kilimanjaro** /,kɪləmənˈdʒarou/ : mountain in Tanzania
Kings-ton /ˈkɪŋstən/ : city in Ontario, Canada
Kin-sha-sa /kɪnˈʃɑːsə/ : city in the Democratic Republic of the Congo
Ki-ri-bati /ˈkɪrə,bæs/ : island country in the Pacific Ocean
Ki-ta-kyu-shu /kiːtɑːˈkyuːʃu/ : city in Japan
Kitch-e-ner /ˈkɪtʃnə/ : city in Ontario, Canada
Klon-dike /ˈklɑːn,dɑːk/ – **the Klondike** : region of Canada
Knox-ville /ˈnɑːks,vɪl/ : U.S. city, Tennessee
Ko-be /ˈkoubi/ : city in Japan
Ko-la Peninsula /ˈkoulə/ – **the Kola Peninsula** : part of northwestern Russia
Kolkata *see* **CALCUTTA**
Ko-na /ˈkounɑː/ : area of the U.S., in Hawaii
Ko-rea /kəˈriə/
1 : area of eastern Asia
2 : North Korea and South Korea

- **Ko-re-an** /kə'rijən/ *adj or noun*
Ko-so-vo /'kɑ:sə,vou, 'kousə,vou/ : country in Europe
 – **Ko-so-var** /'kɑ:sə,vɑə, 'kousə,vɑə/ *adj or noun*
Krak-a-tau /,krækə'tau/ *or* **Krak-a-toa** /,krækə'towə/ : volcano in Indonesia
K2 /,keɪ'tu/ : mountain in Kashmir
Kua-la Lum-pur /,kwɑ:lə'lum,puə/ : city in Malaysia
Kun-ming /'kun'mɪŋ/ : city in China
Kur-di-stan /,kuədə'stæn/ : region of Asia – **Kurd** /'kuəd, 'kəd/ *noun* – **Kurd-ish** /'kuədɪʃ, 'kədɪʃ/ *adj*
Ku-ril *or* **Ku-rile** /'kjuəri:l/ – **the Kuril Islands** *or* **the Kurile Islands** *also* **the Kurils** *or* **the Kuriles** : Russian islands in the Pacific Ocean
Ku-wait /ku'weɪt/ : country in Asia – **Ku-waiti** /ku'wertɪ/ *adj or noun*
Kwang-ju *or* **Gwang-ju** /'gwɑ:ŋ,dʒu:/ : city in South Korea
Kyo-to /'kjou,tou/ : city in Japan
Kyr-gyz-stan /,kiəgɪ'stæn/ : country in Asia
Kyu-shu /'kju:ʃu:/ : island of Japan
Lab-ra-dor /'læbrə,dɔə/ : part of eastern Canada – **Lab-ra-dor-ean** *or* **Lab-ra-dor-ian** /,læbrə'dorijən/ *adj or noun*
La-co-nia /lə'kounijə/ : country in ancient Greece – **La-co-nian** /lə'kounijən/ *adj or noun*
La-fay-ette /,lə'fi:et/ : U.S. city, Louisiana
La-gos /'lei,gɑ:s/ : city in Nigeria
La-hore /lə'hɔə/ : city in Pakistan
La Jol-la /lə'hojə/ : part of the U.S. city of San Diego, in California
Lake-wood /'leɪk,wud/ : U.S. city, Colorado
La-nai /lə'nai/ : island of the U.S., in Hawaii
Lan-cas-ter /'læn,kæstə/ : U.S. city, California
Lan-sing /'lænsɪŋ/ : U.S. city, Michigan
Lan-zhou /'lɑ:'dʒɑ:/ : city in China
Laos /'laus/ : country in Asia – **Lao-tian** /leɪ'ouʃən/ *adj or noun*
Lap-land /'læp,lænd/ : region of northern Europe – **Lap-land-er** /'læp,lændə/ *noun*
La-re-do /lə'reɪdou/ : U.S. city, Texas
Las Ve-gas /lə:s'veɪgəs/ *or* *informally* **Vegas** : U.S. city, Nevada
Latin America
 1 : Spanish America and Brazil
 2 : South America and North America south of the U.S.
 – **Latin-American** *adj* – **Latin American** *noun*
Lat-via /'lætvijə/ : country in Europe – **Lat-vi-an** /'lætvijən/ *adj or noun*
Lau-ren-tian Mountains /lə'renʃən/ – **the Laurentian Mountains** : hills in eastern Canada
La-val /lə'væl/ : city in Quebec, Canada
Law-ton /'lɑ:tn/ : U.S. city, Oklahoma
Leb-a-non /'lebə,nɑ:n/ : country in Asia – **Leb-a-nese** /,lebə'ni:z/ *adj or noun*
Le-na /'li:nə/ – **the Lena River** *also* **the Lena** : river in Russia
Le-so-tho /lə'sou,tou, lə'su:,tu:/ : country in Africa
Lesser Antilles – **the Lesser Antilles** : islands in the West Indies
Le-vant /lə'vænt/ – **the Levant** : countries that border the eastern part of the Mediterranean Sea – **Lev-an-tine** /'levən,tain/ *adj or noun*
Le-vis /'li:vəs/ : city in Quebec, Canada
Lex-ing-ton /'leksɪŋtən/ : U.S. city, Kentucky
Li-be-ria /laɪ'birijə/ : country in Africa – **Li-be-ri-an** /laɪ'birijən/ *adj or noun*
Lib-ya /'libijə/ : country in Africa – **Lib-y-an** /'libijən/ *adj or noun*
Liech-ten-stein /'liktən,stain/ : country in Europe – **Liech-ten-stein-er** /'liktən,stainə/ *noun*
Li-gu-ria /lə'gjəriə/ : region of Italy – **Li-gu-ri-an** /lə'gjəriən/ *adj or noun*
Li-ma /'li:mə/ : city in Peru
Lim-po-po River /lim'poupou/ – **the Limpopo River** : river in Africa
Lin-coln /'lɪŋkən/ : U.S. city, Nebraska
Lis-bon /'lɪzbən/ : city in Portugal – **Lis-bo-an** /lɪz'bowən/ *noun*
Lith-u-a-nia /,liθə'weɪnijə/ : country in Europe – **Lith-u-a-nian** /,liθə'weɪnijən/ *adj or noun*
Lit-tle Rock /'lɪtl,rɑ:k/ : U.S. city, Arkansas
Liv-er-pool /'lɪvə,pul/ : city in England – **Liv-er-pud-li-an** /,lɪvə'pʌdlɪjən/ *adj or noun*
Li-vo-nia /lə'vounijə/ : U.S. city, Michigan
Lo-gan, Mount /'lougən/ : mountain in Canada
Lo-mond, Loch /,lə:k'loumænd/ : lake in Scotland
Lon-don /'lʌndən/
 1 : city in England
 2 : city in Ontario, Canada
 – **Lon-don-er** /'lʌndənə/ *noun*
Long Beach : U.S. city, California
Long Island
 1 : island of the U.S., in New York
 2 **Long Island Sound** : part of the Atlantic Ocean between the U.S. states of New York and Connecticut
Lon-gueuil /laŋ'geɪl/ : city in Quebec, Canada
Los An-ge-les /ləs'ændʒələs/ : U.S. city, California
 – **An-ge-le-no** /,ændʒə'li:nou/ *or* **Los : An-ge-le-no** /ləs,ændʒə'li:nou/ *noun*
Lou-ise, Lake /lu'i:z/ : lake in Alberta, Canada
Lou-i-si-ana /lu,i:zi'ænə/
 1 : state of the U.S.
 2 **the Louisiana Purchase** : area of the U.S. purchased from France in 1803
 – **Lou-i-si-an-ian** /lu,i:zi'æniən/ *or* **Lou-i-si-an-an** /lu,i:zi'ænən/ *adj or noun*
Lou-is-ville /'lu:wɪ,vɪl/ : U.S. city, Kentucky
Low-ell /'lowəl/ : U.S. city, Massachusetts
Lower 48 – **the Lower 48** : the states of the U.S. not including Alaska and Hawaii
Lower Peninsula – **the Lower Peninsula** : part of the U.S., in southern Michigan
Lu-an-da /lu'ɑ:ndə/ : city in Angola
Lub-bock /'lʌbək/ : U.S. city, Texas
Luck-now /'lʌk,nau/ : city in India
Lu-dhi-a-na /,lu:di'ɑ:nə/ : city in India
Lux-em-bourg /'lʌksəm,bəʒ/ : country in Europe – **Lux-em-bourg-er** /'lʌksəm,bəʒə/ *noun* – **Lux-em-bourg-ian** /,lʌksəm'bəʒijən/ *adj*
Lu-zon /lu'zɑ:n/ : island of the Philippines
Lyd-ia /'lɪdijə/ : country of ancient Asia Minor – **Lyd-i-an** /'lɪdijən/ *adj or noun*
Lynch-burg /'lɪntʃ,bəʒ/ : U.S. city, Virginia
Ma-cao /mə'kau/ *or* **Chinese Ao-men** /'au'mən/ : region of China – **Mac-a-nese** /,makə'ni:z/ *noun*
Mac-e-do-nia /,mæsə'dounijə/
 1 : region of Europe
 2 : country in Europe
 – **Mac-e-do-nian** /,mæsə'dounjən/ *adj or noun*
Ma-chu Pic-chu /,mə:ʃu'pi:ʃu/ : site of the ruins of an Inca city in Peru
Mac-ken-zie /mə'kenzi/ – **the Mackenzie River** *also* **the Mackenzie** : river in Canada
Mack-i-nac, Straits of /'mækə,nɑ:/ – **the Straits of Mackinac** : area of water in North America that connects Lake Huron and Lake Michigan
Mad-a-gas-car /,mædə'gæskə/ : island country in the Indian Ocean – **Mad-a-gas-can** /,mædə'gæskən/ *adj or noun*
Ma-dei-ra /mə'dɪrə/
 1 **the Madeira River** *also* **the Madeira** : river in Brazil
 2 **the Madeira Islands** : Portuguese islands in the Atlantic Ocean
 – **Ma-dei-ran** /mə'dɪrən/ *adj or noun*
Mad-i-son /'mædəsən/ : U.S. city, Wisconsin
Ma-dras /mə'dræs/ *or* **Chen-nai** /'tʃɛ,nai/ : city in India
 – **Ma-drasi** /mə'dræsi/ *noun*
Ma-drid /mə'drɪd/ : city in Spain – **Mad-ri-le-nian** /,mædrə'li:nijən/ *adj or noun* – **Ma-dri-le-ño** /,mə:drə'leɪnjou/ *noun*
Mag-da-len Islands /'mægdələn/ : islands of Canada, in Quebec
Ma-gel-lan, Strait of /mə'dʒelən/ – **the Strait of Magel-lan** : area of water that connects the Atlantic Ocean with the Pacific Ocean at the southern end of South America
Ma-ghreb *or* **the Maghreb** /'mɑ:grəb/ : region of north-western Africa
Maine /'meɪn/ : state of the U.S. – **Main-er** /'meɪnə/ *noun*
Ma-jor-ca /mə'dʒoʊkə/ : island of Spain in the Mediterranean Sea – **Ma-jor-can** /mə'dʒoʊkən/ *adj or noun*

Ma-la-wi /mə'lɑ:wi/ : country in Africa — **Ma-la-wi-an** /mə'lɑ:wiən/ *adj or noun*
Ma-lay Archipelago /mə'leɪ, 'meɪ,leɪ/ — **the Malay Archipelago** : group of islands in southeastern Asia
Ma-lay-sia /mə'leɪzə/ : country in Asia — **Ma-lay-sian** /mə'leɪzən/ *adj or noun*
Mal-dives /'mɑ:l,dɪvz/ : island country in the Indian Ocean — **Mal-div-i-an** /mɑl'dɪvɪən/ *adj or noun*
Ma-li /'mɑ:li/ : country in Africa — **Ma-li-an** /'mɑ:liən/ *adj or noun*
Mal-ta /'mɑ:ltə/ : island country in the Mediterranean Sea — **Mal-tese** /mɑl'ti:z/ *adj or noun*
Malvinas, Islas see FALKLAND
Man, Isle of /'mæn/ — **the Isle of Man** : island of the United Kingdom — **Manx** /'mæŋks/ *adj or noun*
Ma-naus /mə'naʊs/ : city in Brazil
Man-ches-ter /'mæn,tʃestə, 'mæntʃestə/ 1 : U.S. city, New Hampshire 2 : city in England
Man-chu-ria /mæn'tʃərijə/ : region of northeastern China — **Man-chu-ri-an** /mæn'tʃərijən/ *adj or noun*
Man-da-lay /,mændə'leɪ/ : city in Myanmar
Man-hat-tan /mæn'hætŋ/ : part of the U.S. city of New York, in the state of New York
Ma-nila /mə'nɪlə/ : city in the Philippines
Man-i-to-ba /,mænə'toubə/ : province of Canada — **Man-i-to-ban** /,mænə'toubən/ *adj or noun*
Man-i-tou-lin Island /,mænə'tu:lən/ : Canadian island in Lake Huron
Mar-a-cai-bo /,merə'kaɪboʊ/ : city in Venezuela
Mar-i-et-ta /,meri'etə/ : U.S. city, Georgia
Mark-ham /'mɑ:kəm/ : town in Ontario, Canada
Mar-ma-ra, Sea of /'mɑ:mərə/ — **the Sea of Marmara** : sea in Turkey
Mar-seille /mɑ'seɪ/ : city in France
Mar-shall /'mɑ:fəl/ — **the Marshall Islands** *also the Marshalls* : islands in the Pacific Ocean — **Mar-shall-ese** /,mɑ:fəl'i:z/ *adj or noun*
Mar-tha's Vineyard /'mɑ:θəz/ : island of the U.S., in Massachusetts — **Vine-yard-er** /'vɪnjədə/ *noun*
Mar-ti-nique /,mɑ:tə'ni:k/ : French island in the West Indies — **Mar-ti-ni-can** /,mɑ:tə'ni:kən/ *adj or noun* — **Mar-ti-ni-quais** /,mɑ:ti:nə'keɪ/ *adj or noun*
Mary-land /'merələnd/ : state of the U.S. — **Mary-land-er** /'merələndə/ *noun*
Mash-had /mə'ʃæd/ : city in Iran
Ma-son-Dix-on Line /,meɪsn'dɪksən/ — **the Mason-Dixon Line** : boundary between northern and southern states of the U.S.
Mas-sa-chu-setts /,mæsə'ʃu:səts/ : state of the U.S.
Mat-ter-horn /'mætə,hoən/ — **the Matterhorn** : mountain on the border between Switzerland and Italy
Maui /'mawi/ : island of the U.S., in Hawaii
Mau-na Kea /,maʊnə'keɪ/ : extinct volcano in the U.S., in Hawaii
Mau-na Loa /,maʊnə'lowə/ : volcano in the U.S., in Hawaii
Mau-re-ta-nia /,mɔrə'teɪniə/ : country of ancient Africa
Mau-ri-ta-nia /,mɔrə'teɪniə/ : country in Africa — **Mau-ri-ta-ni-an** /,mɔrə'teɪniən/ *adj or noun*
Mau-ri-tius /mɔə'rɪfəs/ : island country in the Indian Ocean — **Mau-ri-tian** /mɔə'rɪfən/ *adj or noun*
May, Cape /'meɪ/ : part of the U.S. state of New Jersey
Ma-ya-guez /,majə'gwɛz/ : U.S. city, Puerto Rico
Mc-Al-len /mə'kælən/ : U.S. city, Texas
Mc-Kin-ley, Mount /mə'kɪnli/ *or* **De-na-li** /də'nɑ:li/ : mountain in the U.S., in Alaska
Mec-ca /'mekə/ : city in Saudi Arabia
Me-dan /meɪ'dɑ:n/ : city in Indonesia
Me-de-llín /,medə'li:n/ : city in Colombia
Me-di-na /mə'di:nə/ : city in Saudi Arabia
Med-i-ter-ra-nean /,medətə'reɪniən/ — **the Mediterranean Sea** *also the Mediterranean* : sea between Europe and Africa
Mee-rut /'meɪrət/ : city in India
Me-kong /'mer'kɑ:ŋ/ — **the Mekong River** *also the Mekong* : river in Asia
Mel-a-ne-sia /,melə'ni:zə/ : islands of the Pacific Ocean — **Mel-a-ne-sian** /,melə'ni:zən/ *adj or noun*

Mel-bourne /'mɛlbən/ : city in Australia
Mel-ville Island /'mɛl,vɪl/ : island of Canada in the Arctic Archipelago
Mem-phis /'mɛmfəs/ 1 : U.S. city, Tennessee 2 : city in ancient Egypt
Mem-phre-ma-gog, Lake /,mɛmfɪt'meɪ,gɑ:g/ : lake on the border between the U.S. state of Vermont and Quebec, Canada
Mer-cia /'mɛfijə/ : kingdom in ancient England — **Mer-cian** /'mɛfijən/ *adj or noun*
Me-sa /'meɪsə/ : U.S. city, Arizona
Me-so-amer-i-ca /,mɛzowə'merikə/ : region of southern North America — **Me-so-amer-i-can** /,mɛzowə'merikən/ *adj*
Mes-o-po-ta-mia /,mɛsəpə'teɪmijə/ : region of Asia between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers — **Mes-o-po-ta-mian** /,mɛsəpə'teɪmijən/ *adj or noun*
Mes-quite /mə'ski:t/ : U.S. city, Texas
Mex-i-co /'mɛksɪ,kou/ 1 : country in North America 2 **the Gulf of Mexico** : part of the Atlantic Ocean — **Mex-i-can** /'mɛksɪkən/ *adj or noun*
Mi-ami /maɪ'æmi/ : U.S. city, Florida — **Mi-ami-an** /maɪ'æmijən/ *noun*
Mich-i-gan /'mɪfɪgən/ 1 : state of the U.S. 2 **Lake Michigan** : lake in the U.S. — **Mich-i-gan-der** /,mɪfɪ'gændə/ *noun* — **Mich-i-ga-ni-an** /,mɪfə'geɪniən/ *noun* — **Mich-i-gan-ite** /'mɪfɪgə,nart/ *noun*
Mi-cro-ne-sia, Federated States of /,maɪkrə'ni:zə/ — **the Federated States of Micronesia** : island country in the Pacific Ocean — **Mi-cro-ne-sian** /,maɪkrə'ni:zən/ *adj or noun*
Middle East — the Middle East : countries of southwestern Asia and northern Africa — **Middle Eastern** *adj* — **Middle Easterner** *noun*
Mid-i-an /'mɪdijən/ : region of ancient Arabia — **Mid-i-an-ite** /'mɪdijə,nart/ *noun*
Mid-land /'mɪdlənd/ : U.S. city, Texas
Mid-way /'mɪd,weɪ/ : U.S. islands in the Pacific Ocean
Mid-west /,mɪd'west/ — **the Midwest** : region of the U.S. — **Mid-wes-tern** /,mɪd'westən/ *adj* — **Mid-wes-tern-er** /,mɪd'westənə/ *noun*
Mi-lan /mə'læn, mə'lɑ:n/ : city in Italy — **Mil-a-nese** /,mɪlə'ni:z/ *adj or noun*
Mil-wau-kee /mɪl'wɑ:ki/ : U.S. city, Wisconsin
Min-ne-ap-o-lis /,mɪni'æpələs/ : U.S. city, Minnesota
Min-ne-so-ta /,mɪnəsoutə/ : state of the U.S. — **Min-ne-so-tan** /,mɪnəsoutn/ *adj or noun*
Mi-nor-ca /mə'nɔrkə/ : island of Spain in the Mediterranean Sea — **Mi-nor-can** /mə'nɔrkən/ *adj or noun*
Minsk /'mɪnsk/ : city in Belarus
Mission Vie-jo /vi'eɪhoʊ/ : U.S. city, California
Mis-sis-sau-ga /,mɪsə'sɑ:gə/ : city in Ontario, Canada
Mis-sis-sip-pi /,mɪsə'sɪpi/ 1 : state of the U.S. 2 **the Mississippi River** *also the Mississippi* : river in the U.S. — **Mis-sis-sip-pi-an** /,mɪsə'sɪpijən/ *adj or noun*
Mis-sou-ri /mə'zəri/ 1 : state of the U.S. 2 **the Missouri River** *also the Missouri* : river in the U.S. — **Mis-sou-ri-an** /mə'zərijən/ *adj or noun*
Mitch-ell, Mount /'mɪtʃəl/ : mountain in the U.S., in North Carolina
Mo-bile /mou'bi:l/ : U.S. city, Alabama
Mo-des-to /mə'destou/ : U.S. city, California
Mo-hen-jo Da-ro /mou'hendʒou'darou/ : prehistoric city in Asia
Mo-ja-ve or Mo-ha-ve /mə'hɑ:vi/ — **the Mojave Desert or the Mohave Desert** *also the Mojave or the Mohave* : desert in the U.S., in California
Mol-da-via /məl'dɛvɪjə/ : region in Romania and Moldova — **Mol-da-vian** /məl'dɛvɪjən/ *adj or noun*
Mol-do-va /məl'douvə/ : country in Europe — **Mol-do-van** /məl'douvən/ *adj or noun*

Mol-o-kai /ˌmɑːləˈkaɪ/ : island of the U.S., in Hawaii

Mo-luc-cas /məˈlʌkəz/ – **the Moluccas** : islands of Indonesia – **Mo-luc-ca** /məˈlʌkə/ *adj* – **Mo-luc-can** /məˈlʌkən/ *adj*

Mo-na-co /ˈmɑːnəˌkou/ : country in Europe – **Mo-na-can** /ˈmɑːnəkən/ *adj or noun* – **Mon-e-gasque** /ˌmɑːniˈgæsk/ *adj or noun*

Mon-go-lia /mənˈgouljə/ : country in Asia – **Mon-go-lian** /mənˈgouljən/ *adj or noun*

Mon-tana /mənˈtænə/ : state of the U.S. – **Mon-tan-an** /mənˈtænən/ *adj or noun*

Mont Blanc /ˈmounˈblɑːŋ/ : mountain in France on the Italian border

Mon-te Car-lo /ˌmɑːntiˈkɑːlou/ : section of Monaco

Mon-te-ne-gro /ˌmɑːntəˈniːgrou/ : country in Europe – **Mon-te-ne-grin** /ˌmɑːntəˈniːgrən/ *adj or noun*

Mon-te-rey /ˌmɑːntəˈrei/ : U.S. city, California

Mon-ter-rey /ˌmɑːntəˈrei/ : city in Mexico

Mon-te-vi-deo /ˌmɑːntəvəˈdejou/ : city in Uruguay

Mont-gom-ery /məntˈgɑːməri/ : U.S. city, Alabama

Mon-tre-al /ˌmɑːntriˈɑːl/ : city in Quebec, Canada – **Mon-tre-al-er** /ˌmɑːntriˈɑːlə/ *noun*

Mont-ser-rat /ˌmɑːntsəˈræt/ : British island in the West Indies – **Mont-ser-ra-tian** /ˌmɑːntsəˈreɪfən/ *noun*

Mo-ra-via /məˈreɪvɪjə/ : region of the Czech Republic – **Mo-ra-vi-an** /məˈreɪvɪjən/ *adj or noun*

Mo-re-no Valley /məˈriːnou/ : U.S. city, California

Mo-roc-co /məˈrɑːkou/ : country in Africa – **Mo-roc-can** /məˈrɑːkən/ *adj or noun*

Mos-cow /ˈmɑːskau/ : city in Russia – **Mus-co-vite** /ˈmʌskəˌvaɪt/ *adj or noun*

Mo-zam-bique /ˌmouzəmˈbiːk/ : country in Africa – **Mo-zam-bi-can** /ˌmouzəmˈbiːkən/ *adj or noun*

Mul-tan /mulˈtɑːn/ : city in Pakistan

Mumbai see BOMBAY

Mu-nich /ˈmjuːnik/ : city in Germany

Mur-cia /ˈmɜːfɪjə/ : kingdom in ancient Spain – **Mur-cian** /ˈmɜːfɪjən/ *adj or noun*

Mur-frees-boro /ˈmɜːfrɪzˌbərəu/ : U.S. city, Tennessee

Myan-mar /ˈmjɑːnˌmæ/ or **Bur-ma** /ˈbɜːmə/ : country in Asia

My-sia /ˈmɪfɪjə/ : country in ancient Asia Minor

Nab-a-taea or **Nab-a-tea** /ˌnæbəˈtɪjə/ : kingdom in ancient Palestine – **Nab-a-tae-an** or **Nab-a-te-an** /ˌnæbəˈtɪjən/ *adj or noun*

Na-goya /nəˈgojə/ : city in Japan

Nag-pur /ˈnɑːgˌpuə/ : city in India

Nai-ro-bi /naɪˈroubi/ : city in Kenya

Na-mib-ia /nəˈmɪbɪjə/ : country in Africa – **Na-mib-ian** /nəˈmɪbɪjən/ *adj or noun*

Nan-chang /ˈnɑːnˈtʃɑːŋ/ : city in China

Nan-jing /ˈnɑːnˈdʒɪŋ/ : city in China

Nan-tuck-et /nænˈtʌkət/ : island of the U.S., in Massachusetts

Na-per-ville /ˈneɪpəˌvɪl/ : U.S. city, Illinois

Na-ples /ˈneɪpəlz/ : city in Italy – **Ne-a-pol-i-tan** /ˌniːjəˈpɑːlətən/ *adj or noun*

Nar-ra-gan-sett Bay /ˌnerəˈgænsət/ : part of the Atlantic Ocean

Na-shik /ˈnɑːʃɪk/ : town in India

Nash-ville /ˈnæʃˌvɪl/ : U.S. city, Tennessee

Na-u-ru /nəˈuːru/ : island country in the Pacific Ocean – **Na-u-ru-an** /nəˈuːrəwən/ *adj or noun*

Near East – the Near East : countries of northeastern Africa and southwestern Asia – **Near Eastern** *adj*

Ne-bras-ka /nəˈbræskə/ : state of the U.S. – **Ne-bras-kan** /nəˈbræskən/ *adj or noun*

Neg-ev /ˈneˌɡev/ – **the Negev** : desert region of Israel

Ne-gro /ˈneɪˌɡrou/ – **the Negro River** *also* **the Negro** : river in Colombia and Brazil

Nejd /ˈneɪdʒd/ : region of Saudi Arabia

Ne-pal /nəˈpɑːl/ : country in Asia – **Nep-a-lese** /ˌnepəˈliːz/ *adj or noun* – **Ne-pali** /nəˈpɑːli/ *adj or noun*

Ness, Loch /ˌlɑːkˈnes/ : lake in Scotland

Neth-er-lands /ˈneðəˌləndz/ or **Hol-land** /ˈhɑːlənd/ – **the Netherlands** or **Holland** : country in Europe – **Neth-er-land** /ˈneðəˌlənd/ *adj* – **Neth-er-land-er** /ˈneðəˌləndə/ *noun* – **Neth-er-land-ish** /ˈneðəˌləndɪʃ/ *adj*

Ne-va-da /nəˈvædə, nəˈvɑːdə/ : state of the U.S. – **Ne-va-dan** /nəˈvædn, nəˈvɑːdn/ *adj or noun*

New-ark /ˈnuːwək, Brit ˈnjuːwək/ : U.S. city, New Jersey

New Bruns-wick /ˈbrʌnzˌwɪk/ : province of Canada

New-cas-tle /ˈnuːˌkæsl, Brit ˈnjuːˌkæsl/ : city in England

New England : region in the U.S. including the states of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut – **New En-gland-er** /ˌnuːˈɪŋɡləndə, Brit ˌnjuːˈɪŋɡləndə/ *noun*

New-found-land /ˈnuːfəndlənd, ˌnuːfəndˈlənd, Brit ˈnjuːfəndlənd/ : island of Canada in the Atlantic Ocean – **New-found-land-er** /ˈnuːfəndləndə, Brit ˈnjuːfəndləndə/ *noun*

Newfoundland and Labrador : province of Canada

New Guinea : island divided between Indonesia and Papua New Guinea – **New Guinean** *adj or noun*

New Hamp-shire /ˈhæmpʃə/ : state of the U.S. – **New Hamp-shire-man** /ˈhæmpʃəmən/ *noun* – **New Hamp-shir-ite** /ˈhæmpʃəɪt/ *noun*

New Ha-ven /ˈhervən/ : U.S. city, Connecticut

New Jersey : state of the U.S. – **New Jer-sey-an** /ˈdʒɜːzɪjən/ *noun* – **New Jer-sey-ite** /ˈdʒɜːzɪj,ɪt/ *noun*

New Mexico : state of the U.S. – **New Mexican** *adj or noun*

New Or-leans /ˌnuːˈoʊlənz, Brit ˌnjuːˈoːlənz/ : U.S. city, Louisiana – **New Or-lea-nian** /ˌnuːwəˈliːnjən, Brit ˌnjuːwəˈliːnjən/ *noun*

New-port News /ˌnuːˌpɔːtˈnuːz, Brit ˌnjuːˌpɔːtˈnjuːz/ : U.S. city, Virginia

New World – the New World : land of the Western Hemisphere

New York

1 : state of the U.S.

2 or **New York City** : U.S. city, in the state of New York

– **New York-er** /ˈjoʊkə/ *noun*

New Zea-land /ˈziːlənd/ : island country in the Pacific Ocean – **New Zea-land-er** /ˈziːləndə/ *noun*

Ni-ag-a-ra Falls /naɪˈægrə/ : waterfalls on the border of the U.S. and Canada

Ni-caea /naɪˈsiːə/ : city in ancient Bithynia – **Ni-cae-an** /naɪˈsiːən/ *adj or noun* – **Ni-cene** /ˈnaɪˌsiːn/ *adj*

Ni-ca-ra-gua /ˌnɪkəˈrɑːgwə/ : country in Central America – **Ni-ca-ra-guan** /ˌnɪkəˈrɑːgwən/ *adj or noun*

Ni-ger /ˈnaɪdʒə, niˈʒeə/

1 : country in Africa

2 **the Niger River** *also* **the Niger** : river in Africa

– **Ni-ger-ien** /ˌnaɪˌdʒɪriˈen/ *adj or noun* – **Ni-ger-ois** /ˌniːʒəˈwɑː/ *noun*

Ni-ge-ria /naɪˌdʒɪriːə/ : country in Africa – **Ni-ge-ri-an** /naɪˌdʒɪriːən/ *adj or noun*

Nile /ˈnajəl/ – **the Nile River** *also* **the Nile** : river in Africa

Nit-ta-ny Valley /ˈnɪtəni/ : valley in the U.S., in Pennsylvania

Nizh-niy Nov-go-rod /ˈnɪʒniˈnɑːvgəˌrɑːd/ : city in Russia

Nor-folk /ˈnoʊfək/ : U.S. city, Virginia

Nor-man /ˈnoʊmən/ : U.S. city, Oklahoma

North America : continent of the Western Hemisphere – **North American** *adj or noun*

North Car-o-li-na /ˌkerəˈlɑːnə/ : state of the U.S. – **North Car-o-lin-ian** /ˌkerəˈlɪniən/ *adj or noun*

North Da-ko-ta /dəˈkɒtə/ : state of the U.S. – **North Da-ko-tan** /dəˈkɒtən/ *adj or noun*

Northern Hemisphere – the Northern Hemisphere : half of the Earth north of the equator

Northern Ireland : part of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Northern Mar-i-ana Islands /ˌmeriˈænə/ – **the Northern Mariana Islands** : islands of the U.S., in the Pacific Ocean

North Korea see KOREA – **North Korean** *adj or noun*

North Las Vegas : U.S. city, Nevada

North Pole – the North Pole : the most northern point on Earth

North Sea – the North Sea : part of the Atlantic Ocean

North Slope – the North Slope : region of the U.S., in Alaska

North-um-bria /noʊˈθʌmbriːə/ : country in ancient Great Britain – **North-um-bri-an** /noʊˈθʌmbriːən/ *adj or noun*

Northwest Passage – the Northwest Passage : sea route between the Atlantic Ocean and the Pacific Ocean along the northern coast of America

Northwest Territories – the Northwest Territories : territory of Canada

Nor-walk /'noʊ,wɔ:k/ : U.S. city, California

Nor-way /'noʊ,wei/ : country in Europe – **Nor-we-gian** /noʊ'wi:ʒən/ *adj or noun*

No-va Sco-tia /,nouvə'skoufə/ : province of Canada – **No-va Sco-tian** /,nouvə'skoufən/ *adj or noun*

No-vo-si-birsk /,nouvousə'biəsk/ : city in Russia

Nu-bia /'nu:bijə, Brit 'nju:bijə/ : region in Egypt and Sudan – **Nu-bi-an** /'nu:bijən, Brit 'nju:bijən/ *adj or noun*

Null-ar-bor Plain /'nʌlə,bɔə/ – **the Nullarbor Plain** : area with no trees in Australia

Nu-mid-ia /nu'mɪdijə, Brit nju'mɪdijə/ : country in ancient Africa – **Nu-mid-i-an** /nu'mɪdijən, Brit nju'mɪdijən/ *adj or noun*

Nu-na-vut /'nu:nə,vu:t/ : territory of Canada

Oa-hu /ou'ɑ:hu/ : island of the U.S., in Hawaii

Oak-land /'ouklænd/ : U.S. city, California

Oak-ville /'ouk,vɪl/ : town in Ontario, Canada

Ob /'ɑ:b/ – **the Ob River** *also* **the Ob** : river in Russia

Oce-a-nia /,oufi'ænijə/ : lands of the central and southern Pacific Ocean – **Oce-a-ni-an** /,oufi'ænijən/ *adj or noun*

Ocean-side /'oufən,said/ : U.S. city, California

Odes-sa /ou'desə/ : city in Ukraine

Ohio /ou'hajou/

1 : state of the U.S.

2 **the Ohio River** *also* **the Ohio** : river in the U.S.

– **Ohio-an** /ou'hajowən/ *adj or noun*

Okee-cho-bee, Lake /,oukə'ʃoubi/ : lake in the U.S., in Florida

Oke-fe-no-kee /,oukəfə'nouki/ – **the Okefenokee Swamp** *also* **the Okefenokee** : swamp in the U.S., in Georgia and Florida

Okhotsk, Sea of /ou'kɑ:tsk/ – **the Sea of Okhotsk** : part of the Pacific Ocean

Oki-na-wa /,oukə'nɑ:wə/ : Japanese islands in the Pacific Ocean – **Oki-na-wan** /,oukə'nɑ:wən/ *adj or noun*

Okla-ho-ma /,ouklə'houmə/

1 : state of the U.S.

2 **Oklahoma City** : U.S. city, Oklahoma

– **Okla-ho-man** /,ouklə'houmən/ *adj or noun*

Ola-the /ou'lerθə/ : U.S. city, Kansas

Ol-du-vai Gorge /'ouldə,vai/ : deep narrow area in Tanzania

Old World – the Old World : half of the Earth east of the Atlantic Ocean

Olym-pus or Mount Olympus /ə'limpəs/ : mountains in Greece

Oma-ha /'oumə,hɑ:/ : U.S. city, Nebraska

Oman /ou'mɑ:n/

1 : country in Asia

2 **the Gulf of Oman** : part of the Arabian Sea

– **Omani** /ou'mɑ:ni/ *adj or noun*

Omsk /'ɑ:msk/ : city in Russia

On-tar-io /an'terij,ou/

1 : province of Canada

2 : U.S. city, California

3 **Lake Ontario** : lake in the U.S. and Canada

– **On-tar-i-an** /an'terijən/ *adj or noun*

Or-ange /'ɑrɪndʒ, 'orɪndʒ/

1 : U.S. city, California

2 **the Orange River** *also* **the Orange** : river in Africa

Or-e-gon /'origən/

1 : state of the U.S.

2 **the Oregon Trail** : route in the U.S. from Missouri to Washington used by pioneers

– **Or-e-go-nian** /,orɪ'gounjən/ *adj or noun*

Ori-no-co /,ori'noukou/ – **the Orinoco River** *also* **the Orinoco** : river in Venezuela

Or-lan-do /or'lændou/ : U.S. city, Florida

Osa-ka /ou'sɑ:kɑ/ : city in Japan

Osh-a-wa /'ɑ:fə,wə/ : city in Ontario, Canada

Ot-ta-wa /'ɑ:tə,wə/ : city in Ontario, Canada

Ot-to-man Empire /'ɑ:təmən/ – **the Ottoman Empire** : former Turkish empire in Europe, Asia, and Africa

Over-land Park /'ouvələnd/ : U.S. city, Kansas

Ow-ens-boro /'owənz,bərou/ : U.S. city, Kentucky

Ox-nard /'ɑ:ks,næd/ : U.S. city, California

Ozark /'ou,zæk/ – **the Ozark Plateau** *or* **the Ozark**

Mountains or the Ozarks : mountains in the U.S., in Arkansas – **Ozark-er** /'ou,zækə/ *noun* – **Ozark-ian** /ou'zæk-kijən/ *adj or noun*

Pa-cif-ic /pə'sɪfɪk/

1 **the Pacific Ocean** *also* **the Pacific** : ocean separating North America and South America from Asia and Australia

2 **the Pacific Northwest** : region of the U.S.

3 **the Pacific Rim** : countries in or around the Pacific Ocean

– **Pacific** *adj*

Pa-dre Island /'pɑ:dri/ : island of the U.S., part of the state of Texas, in the Gulf of Mexico

Pa-ki-stan /'pækɪ,stæn/ : country in Asia – **Pa-ki-stani** /,pækɪ'stæni/ *adj or noun*

Pa-lau /pə'lau/ : island country in the Pacific Ocean – **Pa-lau-an** /pə'lawən/ *noun*

Pa-lem-bang /,pɑ:ləm'ba:ŋ/ : city in Indonesia

Pal-es-tine /'pælə,stain/ : region of ancient Asia – **Pal-es-tin-ian** /,pælə'stinjən/ *adj or noun*

Pal-i-sades /,pælə'seɪdz/ – **the Palisades** : cliffs in the U.S., in New York and New Jersey

Palm-dale /'pɑ:m,deɪl/ : U.S. city, California

Pal-o-mar Mountain /'pælə,mɑə/ *or* **Mount Palomar** : mountain in the U.S., in California

Pan-a-ma /'pænə,mɑ:/

1 : country in Central America

2 **the Isthmus of Panama** : strip of land connecting North America and South America

3 **Panama Canal Zone** *see* CANAL ZONE

– **Pan-a-ma-ni-an** /,pænə'meɪnjən/ *adj or noun*

Pan-mun-jom /,pɑ:n,mun'dʒɑm/ : village on the border between North Korea and South Korea

Paph-la-go-nia /,pæflə'gounijə/ : country in ancient Asia Minor

Pa-pua New Guinea /'pæpjəwə/ : island country in the Pacific Ocean – **Papua New Guinean** *adj or noun*

Par-a-guay /'perə,gwai/

1 : country in South America

2 **the Paraguay River** *also* **the Paraguay** : river in South America

– **Par-a-guay-an** /,perə'gwajən/ *adj or noun*

Pa-ra-ná /,para'nɑ:/ – **the Paraná River** : river in South America

Par-is /'perəs/ : city in France – **Pa-ri-sian** /pə'rɪzən/ *adj or noun*

Pas-a-de-na /,pæsə'di:nə/

1 : U.S. city, California

2 : U.S. city, Texas

Pat-a-go-nia /,pætə'gounjə/ : region of South America – **Pat-a-go-nian** /,pætə'gounjən/ *adj or noun*

Pat-er-son /'pætəsən/ : U.S. city, New Jersey

Pat-na /'pɑtnə/ : city in India

Peace /'pi:s/ – **the Peace River** *also* **the Peace** : river in Canada

Pearl Harbor : part of the Pacific Ocean on the U.S. coast of Oahu, in Hawaii

Pe-cho-ra /pi'ʃorə/ – **the Pechora River** *also* **the Pechora** : river in Russia

Peking *see* BEIJING

Pel-o-pon-nese /'peləpə,ni:z/ – **the Peloponnese** : part of Greece

Pem-broke Pines /'pem,brouk/ : U.S. city, Florida

Penn-syl-va-nia /,pensəl'veɪnjə/ : state of the U.S. – **Penn-syl-va-nian** /,pensəl'veɪnjən/ *adj or noun*

Pe-nob-scot Bay /pə'nɑ:b,skɑ:t/ : part of the Atlantic Ocean on the U.S. coast of Maine

Pe-o-ria /pi'orijə/

1 : U.S. city, Illinois

2 : U.S. town, Arizona

Perm' /'pə:m/ : city in Russia

Per-sian Gulf /'pəzən/ – **the Persian Gulf** : part of the Arabian Sea

Pe-ru /pə'ru:/ : country in South America – **Pe-ru-vi-an** /pə'ru:vijən/ *adj or noun*

Pe-sha-war /pə'ʃɑ:wə/ : city in Pakistan

Pe-tra /'pi:trə/ : city in ancient Arabia

Phil-a-del-phia /,filə'delfjə/ : U.S. city, Pennsylvania – **Phil-a-del-phian** /,filə'delfjən/ *adj or noun*

Phil-ip-pines /,filə'pi:nz, 'filə,pi:nz/ – **the Philippines** : is-

- land country in Asia – **Fil-i-pi-no** /ˈfɪləˈpiːnou/ *adj or noun*
 – **Phil-ip-pine** /ˈfɪləˈpiːn, ˈfɪləˈpiːn/ *adj*
Phoe-ni-cia /frˈniːfijə/ : country in ancient Asia – **Phoe-ni-cian** /frˈniːfjən/ *adj or noun*
Phoe-nix /ˈfiːnɪks/ : U.S. city, Arizona
Pied-mont /ˈpiːd,mɑːnt/ – **the Piedmont** : region of the U.S. – **Pied-mon-tese** /ˌpiːdmənˈtiz/ *adj or noun*
Pikes Peak /ˈpaɪks/ : mountain in the U.S., in Colorado
Pi-nel-las Peninsula /paɪˈneləs/ : part of the U.S., in Florida
Pi-sa /ˈpiːzə/ : city in Italy
Pit-cairn Island /ˈpɪt,keən/ : British island in the Pacific Ocean – **Pit-cairn-er** /ˈpɪt,keənə/ *noun*
Pitts-burgh /ˈpɪts,bəɪ/ : U.S. city, Pennsylvania – **Pitts-burgh-er** /ˈpɪts,bəɪə/ *noun*
Plac-id, Lake /ˈplæsəd/ : lake in the U.S., in New York
Pla-no /ˈpleɪnou/ : U.S. city, Texas
Platte /ˈplæt/ – **the Platte River** *also* **the Platte** : river in the U.S., in Nebraska
Plym-outh Rock /ˈplɪməθ/ : historic location in the U.S., in Massachusetts
Po-co-no /ˈpoukə,nou/ – **the Pocono Mountains** *also* **the Poconos** : mountains in the U.S., in Pennsylvania
Point Pe-lee /ˌpointˈpiːli/ : part of Canada, in Ontario on Lake Erie
Po-land /ˈpoulənd/ : country in Europe – **Pole** /ˈpoul/ *noun*
 – **Pol-ish** /ˈpouliʃ/ *adj*
Poly-ne-sia /ˌpɑːləˈniːzə/ : islands of the central and southern Pacific Ocean – **Poly-ne-sian** /ˌpɑːləˈniːzən/ *adj or noun*
Pom-er-a-nia /ˌpɑːməˈreɪniə/ : region of Europe
Po-mo-na /pəˈmounə/ : U.S. city, California
Pom-peii /pəmˈpeɪ/ : city in ancient Italy – **Pom-pe-ian** /pəmˈpeɪən/ *adj or noun*
Pon-ce /ˈpɑːnseɪ/ : U.S. city, Puerto Rico
Pont-char-train, Lake /ˈpɑːntʃəˌtreɪn/ : lake in the U.S., in Louisiana
Pon-ti-ac /ˈpɑːntɪæk/ : U.S. city, Michigan
Port-land /ˈportlənd/ : U.S. city, Oregon – **Port-land-er** /ˈportləndə/ *noun*
Por-to Ale-gre /ˌpoʊtuwəˈleɪɡri/ : city in Brazil
Ports-mouth /ˈpoʊtsməθ/ : U.S. city, Virginia
Por-tu-gal /ˈpoʊtʃɪɡəl/ : country in Europe – **Por-tu-guese** /ˈpoʊtʃɪˌɡiːz, ˈpoʊtʃɪˌɡiːz/ *adj or noun*
Po-to-mac /pəˈtəʊmæk/ – **the Potomac River** *also* **the Potomac** : river in the U.S.
Prague /ˈpraɪɡ/ : city in the Czech Republic
Prairie Provinces – **the Prairie Provinces** : the provinces of Alberta, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan, in Canada
Prince Ed-ward Island /ˈɛdwəd/ : province of Canada
Prov-i-dence /ˈprɑːvədəns/ : U.S. city, Rhode Island
Pro-vo /ˈprouvəʊ/ : U.S. city, Utah
Prud-hoe Bay /ˈpruːdou/ : part of the Beaufort Sea near the U.S. coast of Alaska
Prus-sia /ˈprʌʃə/ : former kingdom in Europe – **Prus-sian** /ˈprʌʃən/ *adj or noun*
Pueb-la /ˈpweɪlə/ : city in Mexico
Pueb-lo /ˈpweɪlou, ˌpjuːˈɛblou/ : U.S. city, Colorado
Puer-to Ri-co /ˌpoʊtəˈriːkou, ˌpweəˈtəʊˈriːkou/ : island of the U.S. – **Puer-to Ri-can** /ˌpoʊtəˈriːkən, ˌpweəˈtəʊˈriːkən/ *adj or noun*
Pu-get Sound /ˈpuːdʒət/ : part of the Pacific Ocean
Pu-ne /ˈpuːnə/ : city in India
Pu-san /ˈpuːsɑːn/ *or* **Bu-san** /ˈbʰuːsɑːn/ : city in South Korea
Pyong-yang /ˈpjɑːŋ,jæŋ/ : city in North Korea
Pyr-e-nees /ˈpiːrəˌniːz/ – **the Pyrenees** : mountains on the border of France and Spain
Qa-tar /ˈkɑːtə/ : country in Arabia – **Qa-tari** /kəˈtəri/ *adj or noun*
Qing-dao /ˈtʃɪŋˈdau/ : city in China
Qi-qi-har /ˈtʃiˈtʃiˈhɑː/ : city in China
Que-bec /kwɪˈbek/ : province of Canada
 2 : city in the province of Quebec, Canada
 – **Que-bec-er** *or* **Que-beck-er** /kwɪˈbekə/ *noun*
Queens /ˈkwɪnz/ : part of the U.S. city of New York, in the state of New York
Que-zon City /ˈkeɪsɑːn/ : city in the Philippines
- Qui-to** /ˈkiːtəʊ/ : city in Ecuador
Rai-nier, Mount /rəˈniə/ : mountain in the U.S., in Washington
Ra-leigh /ˈrɑːli/ : U.S. city, North Carolina
Ran-cho Cu-ca-mon-ga /ˈræntʃouˌkuːkəˈmɑŋɡə/ : U.S. city, California
Rangoon *see* YANGON
Rasht /ˈræft/ : city in Iran
Ra-wal-pin-di /ˌrɑːwəlˈpɪndi/ : city in Pakistan
Re-ci-fe /rəˈsiːfi/ : city in Brazil
Red /ˈrɛd/
 1 **the Red River** : river in the U.S.
 2 **the Red Sea** : sea between Arabia and Africa
Re-gi-na /rɪˈdʒaɪnə/ : city in Saskatchewan, Canada
Re-no /ˈriːnou/ : U.S. city, Nevada
Ré-union /riˈjuːnjən/ : French island in the Indian Ocean
Rhae-tia /ˈriːfijə/ : ancient Roman province in Europe
Rhine /ˈraɪn/ – **the Rhine River** *also* **the Rhine** : river in Europe – **Rhen-ish** /ˈrɛnɪʃ/ *adj*
Rhine-land /ˈraɪn,lænd/ – **the Rhineland** : region of Germany – **Rhine-land-er** /ˈraɪn,lændə/ *noun*
Rhode Is-land /rouˈdʰaɪlənd/ : state of the U.S. – **Rhode Is-land-er** /rouˈdʰaɪləndə/ *noun*
Rhodes /ˈroudz/ : island of Greece in the Aegean Sea
Rhodesia *see* ZIMBABWE – **Rho-de-sian** /rouˈdiːzən/ *adj or noun*
Ri-al-to /riˈæltəʊ/ : U.S. city, California
Rich-ard-son /ˈrɪtʃədsən/ : U.S. city, Texas
Rich-mond /ˈrɪtʃmənd/
 1 : U.S. city, Virginia
 2 : city in British Columbia, Canada
Richmond Hill : town in Ontario, Canada
Ri-deau Canal /rɪˈdou/ – **the Rideau Canal** : canal system in Ontario, Canada
Rio de Ja-nei-ro /ˈrijouˌdeɪzəˈnerou/ *or informally* **Rio** : city in Brazil
Rio Grande /ˌrijouˈgrænd/ – **the Rio Grande** : river in North America
Riv-er-side /ˈrɪvəsaɪd/ : U.S. city, California
Riv-i-era /ˌrɪviˈerə/ – **the Riviera** : coast region in France and Italy
Ri-yadh /riˈjɑːd/ : city in Saudi Arabia
Rob-son, Mount /ˈrɑːbsən/ : mountain in British Columbia, Canada
Roch-es-ter /ˈrɑːtʃəstə/ : U.S. city, New York
Rock-ford /ˈrɑːkfəd/ : U.S. city, Illinois
Rocky Mountains /ˈrɑːki/ – **the Rocky Mountains** *also* **the Rock-ies** /ˈrɑːkɪz/ : mountains in North America
Ro-ma-nia /rouˈmeɪniə/ : country in Europe – **Ro-ma-nian** /rouˈmeɪniən/ *adj or noun*
Rome /ˈroum/ : city in Italy – **Ro-man** /ˈroumən/ *adj or noun*
Ros-tov-on-Don /rɪˈstɑːfɑːnˈdɑːn/ : city in Russia
Rush-more, Mount /ˈrʌʃ,məʊ/ : mountain in the U.S., in South Dakota
Rus-sia /ˈrʌʃə/
 1 : UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS
 2 : country in Europe and Asia
 – **Rus-sian** /ˈrʌʃən/ *adj or noun*
Ru-the-nia /ruˈθiːnjə/ : region of Ukraine – **Ru-the-nian** /ruˈθiːnjən/ *adj or noun*
Rwan-da /ruˈɑːndə/ : country in Africa – **Rwan-dan** /ruˈɑːndən/ *adj or noun*
Ryu-kyu Islands /riˈjuːkju/ : Japanese islands in the Pacific Ocean – **Ryu-kyu-an** /riˈjuːkjuwən/ *adj or noun*
Saan-ich /ˈsænɪʃ/ : city in British Columbia, Canada
Sac-ra-men-to /ˌsækrəˈmentou/ : U.S. city, California
Sag-i-naw Bay /ˈsæɡənəʊ/ : part of Lake Huron near the U.S. state of Michigan
Sag-ue-nay /ˈsæɡəˌneɪ/ : city in Quebec, Canada
Sa-ha-ra /səˈherə/ – **the Sahara** : desert in Africa – **Sa-ha-ran** /səˈherən/ *adj*
Sa-hel /ˈsæhɪl/ – **the Sahel** : southern part of the Sahara
Saigon *see* HO CHI MINH CITY
Saint Bar-the-le-my /ˌsænbəˈteɪləˈmi/ *or informally* **Saint Bart's** /ˌseɪntˈbəʊts/ : French island in the West Indies
Saint Cath-a-rines /ˈkæθərənz/ : city in Ontario, Canada

Saint Clair, Lake /'kleə/ : lake in the U.S. state of Michigan and Ontario, Canada

Saint Croix /'kroi/ : island of the Virgin Islands of the U.S.

Saint Eu-sta-ti-us /ju'steɪfəs/ *or informally Statia* /'steɪfə/ : Dutch island in the West Indies

Saint He-le-na /,seɪntə'li:nə/ : British island in the Atlantic Ocean

Saint Hel-ens, Mount /'helənz/ : volcano in the U.S., in Washington

Saint-Jean, Lake /,seɪnt'ʒɑ:n/ : lake in Quebec, Canada

Saint John's /'dʒɑ:nz/ : city in Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada

Saint Kitts and Nevis /seɪnt'kɪtsə'ni:vəs/ : island country in the West Indies – **Kit-ti-tian** /kə'tɪfən/ *adj or noun* – **Ne-vis-ian** /nə'vɪʒən/ *adj or noun*

Saint Law-rence /'lɒrəns/

1 the Saint Lawrence River *also the Saint Lawrence* : river in Ontario and Quebec, Canada, bordering on the U.S. state of New York

2 the Saint Lawrence Seaway : shipping route in Canada and the U.S.

Saint Lou-is /'luwəs/ : U.S. city, Missouri – **Saint Lou-i-san** /'luwəsən/ *noun*

Saint Lu-cia /'lu:fə/ : island country in the West Indies – **Saint Lu-cian** /'lu:fən/ *adj or noun*

Saint Paul /'pɑ:l/ : U.S. city, Minnesota

Saint Pe-ters-burg /'pi:təz,bəg/

1 : U.S. city, Florida

2 : city in Russia

Saint-Pierre and Miquelon /seɪnt'piərənd'mɪkə,lɑ:n/ : French islands in the Atlantic Ocean

Saint Si-mons Island /'saɪm'ənz/ : island of the U.S., near Georgia in the Atlantic Ocean

Saint Thom-as /'tɑ:məs/ : U.S. island, in the Virgin Islands

Saint Vin-cent and the Gren-a-dines /seɪnt'vɪnsənt-əndðə,ɡrənə'di:nz/ : island country in the West Indies

Sai-pan /saɪ'pæn/ : island in the U.S., in the Northern Mariana Islands

Sa-kha-lin /'sækə,li:n/ : Russian island in the Pacific Ocean

Sa-lem /'seɪləm/ : U.S. city, Oregon

Sa-li-nas /sə'li:nəs/ : U.S. city, California

Salt Lake City : U.S. city, Utah

Sal-ton Sea /'sɑ:ltən/ – **the Salton Sea** : salt lake in the U.S., in California

Sal-va-dor /'sælvə,dɔə/ : city in Brazil

Sal-ween /'sæl,wɪ:n/ – **the Salween River** *also the Salween* : river in Asia

Sa-ma-ra /sə'marə/ : city in Russia

Sam-ni-um /'sæmniəm/ : country in ancient Italy – **Sam-nite** /'sæm,nart/ *adj or noun*

Sa-moa /sə'mowə/

1 : islands in the Pacific Ocean

2 : island country in the Pacific Ocean

– **Sa-mo-an** /sə'mowən/ *adj or noun*

Sa-mos /'seɪ,mɑ:s/ : Greek island in the Aegean Sea – **Sam-li-an** /'seɪmɪjən/ *adj or noun*

San An-dre-as Fault /,sænən'dreɪəs/ – **the San Andreas Fault** *also the San Andreas* : part of the Earth where earthquakes occur in the U.S., in California

San An-to-nio /,sænən'touni,ou/ : U.S. city, Texas

San Ber-nar-di-no /,sæn,bə'nə'di:nou/ : U.S. city, California

San Buenaventura see VENTURA

San Di-e-go /,sændi'eɪɡou/ : U.S. city, California – **San Di-e-gan** /,sændi'eɪɡən/ *adj or noun*

San Fer-nan-do Valley /,sænfə'nændou/ : valley in the U.S., in California

San Fran-cis-co /,sænfrən'sɪskou/

1 : U.S. city, California

2 San Francisco Bay : part of the Pacific Ocean

– **San Fran-cis-can** /,sænfrən'sɪskən/ *adj or noun*

San Jo-se /,sænhou'zeɪ/ : U.S. city, California

San Juan /sæn'wɑ:n/ : U.S. city, Puerto Rico

San Ma-ri-no /,sænmə'ri:nou/ : country in Europe – **Sam-mar-i-nese** /,sæm,merə'ni:z/ *noun* – **San Mar-i-nese** /,sæm,merə'ni:z/ *adj or noun*

San Ma-teo /,sænmə'tejou/ : U.S. city, California

San-ta Ana /,sæntə'ænə/ : U.S. city, California

San-ta Bar-ba-ra /,sæntə'baəbrə/ : U.S. city, California

San-ta Clara /,sæntə'klerə/ : U.S. city, California

San-ta Cla-ri-ta /,sæntəklə'ri:tə/ : U.S. city, California

San-ta Fe Trail /,sæntə'feɪ/ – **the Santa Fe Trail** : route in the U.S. from Missouri to New Mexico used by pioneers and traders in the 1800s

San-ta Ro-sa /,sæntə'rouzə/ : U.S. city, California

San-to Do-min-go /,sæntədə'mɪŋɡou/ : city in the Dominican Republic

São Pau-lo /,saun'paulu/ : city in Brazil

São To-mé and Prín-ci-pe /,sauntə'mejənd'prɪnsəpi/ : country in Africa

Sap-po-ro /'sɑ:pou,rou/ : city in Japan

Sar-din-ia /sɑə'dɪniə/ : Italian island in the Mediterranean Sea – **Sar-din-ian** /sɑə'dɪniən/ *adj or noun*

Sas-katch-e-wan /sə'skætʃəwən/ : province of Canada

Sas-ka-toon /,sæskə'tu:n/ : city in Saskatchewan, Canada

Sau-di Arabia /'saudi/ : country on the Arabian Peninsula – **Saudi** *adj or noun* – **Saudi Arabian** *adj or noun*

Sault Sainte Ma-rie Canals /,su:,seɪntmə'ri:/ – **the Sault Sainte Marie Canals** *also the Soo Canals* /'su/ : canals connecting Lake Superior and Lake Huron

Sa-van-nah /sə'vænə/ : U.S. city, Georgia

Sa-voy /sə'voi/ : region of France – **Sa-voy-ard** /sə'voi-,əəd/ *adj or noun*

Sax-o-ny /'sæksəni/ : region of Germany – **Sax-on** /'sæksən/ *adj or noun*

Scan-di-na-via /,skændə'nervijə/

1 : part of Europe

2 : the countries of Denmark, Norway, Sweden, and sometimes also Iceland and Finland

– **Scan-di-na-vian** /,skændə'nervijən/ *adj or noun*

Scot-land /'skɑ:tlənd/ *or Latin Cal-e-do-nia* /,kælə'dounjə/ : part of the United Kingdom – **Scot** /'skɑ:t/ *noun*

– **Scotch** /'skɑ:tʃ/ *adj* – **Scots** /'skɑ:ts/ *adj* – **Scot-tish** /'skɑ:tɪʃ/ *adj*

Scotts-dale /'skɑ:ts,deɪl/ : U.S. city, Arizona

Scyth-ia /'sɪθijə/ : area of ancient Europe and Asia – **Scyth-ian** /'sɪθijən/ *adj or noun*

Se-at-tle /si'ætɪl/ : U.S. city, Washington – **Se-at-tle-ite** /si'ætɪl'aɪt/ *noun*

Seine /'seɪn, 'sen/ – **the Seine River** *also the Seine* : river in France

Se-ma-rang /sə'maə,ɑ:ŋ/ : city in Indonesia

Sen-dai /,sen'daɪ/ : city in Japan

Sen-e-gal /,senɪ'gɑ:l/

1 : country in Africa

2 the Senegal River *also the Senegal* : river in Africa

– **Sen-e-ga-lese** /,senɪgə'li:z/ *adj or noun*

Seoul /'soul/ : city in South Korea

Ser-bia /'səbijə/ : country in Europe – **Ser-bi-an** /'səbijən/ *adj or noun*

Ser-en-ge-ti Plain /,serən'geti/ – **the Serengeti Plain** : area in Tanzania

Sew-ard Peninsula /'su:wəd/ – **the Seward Peninsula** : part of the U.S., in Alaska

Sey-chelles /seɪ'felz/ : island country in the Indian Ocean – **Sey-chel-lois** /seɪ'fel'wa:/ *noun*

Shang-hai /ʃæŋ'haɪ/ : city in China

Shatt al Ar-ab /,ʃætæl'erəb/ – **the Shatt al Arab** : river in Iraq

Shen-an-do-ah Valley /,ʃenən'dowə/ – **the Shenandoah Valley** : valley in the U.S., between the Allegheny and Blue Ridge mountains

Shen-yang /'ʃʌn'jɑ:ŋ/ : city in China

Sher-brooke /'ʃæ,bruk/ : city in Quebec, Canada

Shet-land /'ʃetlənd/ – **the Shetland Islands** *also the Shetlands* : islands of Scotland

Shi-jia-zhuang /'ʃiə'dʒiɑ:'dʒwɑ:ŋ/ : city in China

Shi-ko-ku /ʃi'kouku/ : island of Japan

Shreve-port /'ʃri:v,poət/ : U.S. city, Louisiana

Siam see THAILAND

Si-be-ria /saɪ'birijə/ : region of Russia – **Si-be-ri-an** /saɪ'birijən/ *adj or noun*

Sic-i-ly /'sɪsəli/ : island of Italy – **Si-cil-ian** /sə'sɪljən/ *adj or noun*

Si-er-ra Le-one /si,erəli'oun/ : country in Africa – **Si-er-ra Le-on-ean** /si,erəli'ounijən/ *adj or noun*

Sier-ra Ne·va·da /si,erənə'vædə, si,erə'vɑ:də/ – **the Sierra Nevada** : mountain range in the U.S., in California and Nevada

Sik·kim /'sɪkəm/ : former country in Asia; now part of India

Si·le·sia /sar'li:zi:jə/ : region of Europe – **Si·le·sian** /sar'li:zi:jən/ *adj or noun*

Silicon Valley : region of the U.S., in California

Silk Road or Silk Route – the Silk Road or the Silk Route : ancient trade route from China to the Mediterranean Sea

Si·mi Valley /si'mi:/ : U.S. city, California

Si·nai /'saɪ,naɪ/ – **the Sinai Peninsula** *also* **the Sinai** : land between the Red Sea and the Mediterranean Sea

Sin·ga·pore /'sɪŋə,pəʊ/ : island country in Asia – **Sin·ga·por·ean** /'sɪŋə,pɔri:jən/ *adj or noun*

Sioux Falls /'su:/ : U.S. city, South Dakota

Sla·vo·nia /slə'vounijə/ : region of Croatia – **Sla·vo·ni·an** /slə'vounijən/ *adj or noun*

Slo·va·kia /slou'vɑ:kijə/ : country in Europe – **Slo·va·ki·an** /slou'vɑ:kijən/ *adj or noun*

Slo·ve·nia /slou'vinijə/ : country in Europe – **Slo·ve·nian** /slou'vinijən/ *adj or noun*

Snake /'sneɪk/ – **the Snake River** *also* **the Snake** : river in the U.S.

Sod·om /'sɑ:dəm/ : city in ancient Asia

So·fia /'soufijə/ : city in Bulgaria

Sol·o·mon /'sɑ:ləmən/ – **the Solomon Islands** *also* **the Solomons** : country in the Pacific Ocean

So·ma·lia /sou'mɑ:lijə/ : country in Africa – **So·ma·li** /sou'mɑ:li/ *noun* – **So·ma·li·an** /sou'mɑ:liən/ *adj or noun*

So·nor·an Desert /sə'norən/ – **the Sonoran Desert** : desert in the U.S. and Mexico

Soo Canals *see* SAULT SAINTE MARIE

South Africa – the Republic of South Africa or South Africa : country in Africa – **South African** *adj or noun*

South America : continent of the Western Hemisphere – **South American** *adj or noun*

South Bend /'bend/ : U.S. city, Indiana

South Car·o·li·na /,kerə'lainə/ : state of the U.S. – **South Car·o·lin·i·an** /,kerə'linijən/ *adj or noun*

South Da·ko·ta /də'koutə/ : state of the U.S. – **South Da·ko·tan** /də'koutən/ *adj or noun*

Southern Hemisphere – the Southern Hemisphere : half of the Earth south of the equator

Southern Ocean – the Southern Ocean : ocean areas surrounding Antarctica

South Korea *see* KOREA – **South Korean** *adj or noun*

South Pole – the South Pole : the most southern point on Earth

South Seas – the South Seas : areas of the Atlantic, Indian, and Pacific oceans in the Southern Hemisphere

Soviet Union *see* UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

So·we·to /sou'weitou/ : area in South Africa – **So·we·tan** /sou'weɪtən/ *noun*

Spain /'speɪn/ : country in Europe – **Span·iard** /'spænjəd/ *noun* – **Span·ish** /'spæniʃ/ *adj or noun*

Spanish America : the countries of America where people speak Spanish

Spar·ta /'spɑ:tə/ : city in ancient Greece

Spo·kane /spou'kæn/ : U.S. city, Washington

Spring·field /'sprɪŋ,fi:ld/

1 : U.S. city, Illinois

2 : U.S. city, Massachusetts

3 : U.S. city, Missouri

Sri Lan·ka /,sri:'lɑ:ŋkə/ : country in the Indian Ocean, consisting of the island of Ceylon – **Sri Lan·kan** /,sri:'lɑ:ŋkən/ *adj or noun*

Srp·ska, Re·pu·bli·ka /'səpska, rɐ'pu:blika/ : region of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Stam·ford /'stæmfəd/ : U.S. city, Connecticut

Stat·en Island /'stætn/ : part of the U.S. city of New York, in the state of New York

Statia *see* SAINT EUSTATIUS

Ster·ling Heights /'stɜ:lɪŋ/ : U.S. city, Michigan

Stock·holm /'stɑ:k,houlm/ : city in Sweden

Stock·ton /'stɑ:ktən/ : U.S. city, California

Stone·henge /'stoun,hendʒ/ : a group of very large stones in England arranged by people in prehistoric times

Styr·ia /'stirijə/ : region of Austria

Su·dan /su'dæn/ : country in Africa – **Su·da·nese** /,su:də'ni:z/ *adj or noun*

Sud·bury, Greater /'sʌd,beri/ : city in Ontario, Canada

Su·ez Canal /su'ez/ – **the Suez Canal** : canal connecting the Red Sea with the Mediterranean Sea

Su·ma·tra /su'mɑ:trə/ : island of Indonesia – **Su·ma·tran** /su'mɑ:trən/ *adj or noun*

Su·mer /'su:mə/ : part of ancient Babylonia – **Su·me·ri·an** /su'merijən/ *adj or noun*

Sun·belt /'sʌn,belt/ – **the Sunbelt** : region of the southern and southwestern U.S.

Sun·ny·vale /'sʌni,veil/ : U.S. city, California

Su·pe·ri·or, Lake /su'pirijə/ : lake in the U.S. and Canada

Su·ra·ba·ya /,sə'rə'bajə/ : city in Indonesia

Su·rat /'surət/ : city in India

Su·ri·na·me /,surə'nɑ:mə/ : country in South America – **Su·ri·nam·er** /'surə,nɑ:mə/ *noun* – **Su·ri·nam·ese** /,surənə'mi:z/ *adj or noun*

Sur·rey /'səri/ : city in British Columbia, Canada

Su·wan·nee /sə'wɑ:ni/ – **the Suwannee River** *also* **the Suwannee** : river in the U.S., in Georgia and Florida

Swa·zi·land /'swɑ:zi,lænd/ : country in Africa – **Swa·zi** /'swɑ:zi/ *adj or noun*

Swe·den /'swi:dŋ/ : country in Europe – **Swede** /'swi:d/ *noun* – **Swed·ish** /'swi:diʃ/ *adj*

Swit·zer·land /'switsəlænd/ : country in Europe – **Swiss** /'swɪs/ *adj or noun*

Syd·ney /'sɪdni/ : city in Australia

Syr·a·cuse /'sirə,kju:s/ : U.S. city, New York

Syr Dar'·ya /siə'dɑ:ʒə/ – **the Syr Dar'ya** : river in Tajikistan and Kazakhstan

Syr·ia /'sirijə/ : country in Asia – **Syr·i·an** /'sirijən/ *adj or noun*

Ta·co·ma /tə'koumə/ : U.S. city, Washington

Tae·gu /'teɪgu/ *or* **Dae·gu** /'deɪgu/ : city in South Korea

Tae·jon /'teɪ'dʒʌn/ *or* **Dae·jeon** /'deɪ'dʒʌn/ : city in South Korea

Ta·hi·ti /tə'hi:ti/ : French island in the Pacific Ocean

Tahoe, Lake : lake in the U.S., between California and Nevada

Tai·bei /'taɪ'peɪ, 'beɪ/ *or* **Tai·pei** : city in Taiwan

Tai·wan /'taɪ'wɑ:n/ : Chinese island off the coast of Asia – **Tai·wan·ese** /,taɪwə'ni:z/ *adj or noun*

Tai·yu·an /'taɪ'jwən/ : city in China

Tai·zhong /'taɪ'dʒʊŋ/ : city in Taiwan

Ta·jik·i·stan /tɑ,dʒɪkɪ'stæn/ : country in Asia – **Ta·jik** /tɑ,dʒɪk/ *noun*

Tal·la·has·see /,tælə'hæsi/ : U.S. city, Florida

Tam·pa /'tæmpə/

1 : U.S. city, Florida

2 **Tampa Bay** : part of the Gulf of Mexico

Tan·gan·yi·ka /,tæŋgə'nji:kə/ : former country in Africa

Tang·shan /'dɑ:ŋ'ʃɑ:n/ : city in China

Tan·za·nia /,tænzə'ni:jə/ : country in Africa – **Tan·za·ni·an** /,tænzə'ni:jən/ *adj or noun*

Tap·pan Zee /,tæpən'zi:/ – **the Tappan Zee** : part of the Hudson River in the U.S.

Tash·kent /tæʃ'kɛnt/ : city in Uzbekistan

Tas·ma·nia /tæz'meɪni:jə/ : island of Australia – **Tas·ma·nian** /tæz'meɪni:jən/ *adj or noun*

Tbi·li·si /tə'bi:ləsi/ : city in the Republic of Georgia

Teh·ran /,teɪ'rɑ:n, ,teɪ'ræn/ : city in Iran

Tel Aviv /,telə'vi:v/ : city in Israel

Tem·pe /tɛm'pi:/ : U.S. city, Arizona

Ten·nes·see /,tenə'si:/ : state of the U.S. – **Ten·nes·se·an** *or* **Ten·nes·see·an** /,tenə'si:jən/ *adj or noun*

Terre·bonne /'terə,bɑ:n/ : town in Quebec, Canada

Te·ton /'ti:tɑ:n/ – **the Teton Range** *also* **the Tetons** : mountains in the U.S., in Wyoming

Tex·as /'teksəs/ : state of the U.S. – **Tex·an** /'teksən/ *adj or noun*

Thai·land /'taɪ,lænd/ *or formerly* **Si·am** /sar'aem/

1 : country in Asia

2 **the Gulf of Thailand** : part of the South China Sea bordered by Thailand, Cambodia, and Vietnam

– **Thai** /'taɪ/ *adj or noun*

Thames /'tæmz/ – the Thames River *also* the Thames : river in England

Tha-ne /'tɑ:nə/ : town in India

Thebes /'θi:bz/

1 : city in ancient Egypt

2 : city in ancient Greece

– **The-ban** /'θi:bən/ *adj* or *noun*

Thes-sa-ly /'θɛsəli/ : region of Greece

Thomp-son /'tɑ:mpsən/ : river in British Columbia, Canada

Thousand Oaks : U.S. city, California

Thrace /'θreɪs/ : region in the Balkan Peninsula – **Thra-cian** /'θreɪʃən/ *adj* or *noun*

Thunder Bay : city in Ontario, Canada

Thu-rin-gia /θu'rɪndʒijə/ : region of Germany

Tian-jin /'tʃen'dʒɪn/ : city in China

Tian Shan /'tʃen'ʃɑ:n/ : mountains in Asia

Ti-bet /tə'bet/ or **Xi-zang** /'ʃi:d'zɑ:ŋ/ : region of China – **Ti-bet-an** /tə'betən/ *adj* or *noun*

Tier-ra del Fue-go /ti'erə,delfu'eɪgou/ : islands south of South America

Ti-gris /'taɪgrəs/ – the Tigris River *also* the Tigris : river in Turkey and Iraq

Ti-jua-na /ti'hwa:nə/ : city in Mexico on the U.S. border

Ti-mor /'ti,məʊ/ : island divided between Indonesia and East Timor

Ti-rol or **Ty-rol** /tə'roul, 'taɪ,roul/ – the Tirol or the Tyrol : region in Austria and Italy – **Ti-ro-le-an** /tə'roulijən/ or **Ti-ro-lese** /,tɪrə'li:z/ *adj* or *noun*

Ti-ti-ca-ca, Lake /,tɪtɪ'kɑ:kə/ : lake between Bolivia and Peru

Toa Baja /,təwə'bɑ:hɑ/ : U.S. city, Puerto Rico

To-go /'tougou/ : country in Africa – **To-go-lese** /,tougə-'li:z/ *adj* or *noun*

To-kyo /'təuki,ou/ : city in Japan – **To-kyo-ite** /'təuki-,ou,ait/ *noun*

To-le-do /tə'li:dou/ : U.S. city, Ohio

Ton-ga /'tɑ:ŋgə/ : island kingdom in the Pacific Ocean – **Ton-gan** /'tɑ:ŋgən/ *adj* or *noun*

Ton-kin, Gulf of /'tɑ:ŋkən/ – the Gulf of Tonkin : part of the South China Sea east of Vietnam

To-pe-ka /tə'pi:kə/ : U.S. city, Kansas

To-ron-to /tə'rɑ:ntou/ : city in Ontario, Canada – **To-ron-to-ni-an** /tə'rɑ:n'tounijən/ *adj* or *noun*

Tor-rance /'torəns/ : U.S. city, California

Tran-syl-va-nia /,trænsəl'veɪnjə/ : region of Romania – **Tran-syl-va-nian** /,trænsəl'veɪnjən/ *adj* or *noun*

Trin-i-dad and Tobago /'trɪnə,dædəndtə'beɪgou/ : island country in the West Indies – **To-ba-go-ni-an** /,toubə-'gounijən/ *noun* – **Trin-i-da-di-an** /,trɪnə'deɪdijən/ *adj* or *noun*

Trip-o-li /'trɪpəli/ : city in Libya

Tri-po-li-ta-nia /trɪ,pɑ:lə'teɪnjə/ : region of Libya

Trois-Ri-vieres /,twɑ:ri'vjeə/ : city in Quebec, Canada

Troy /'troi/ : city in ancient Asia Minor

Tuc-son /'tu,sɑ:n/ : U.S. city, Arizona

Tul-sa /'talsə/ : U.S. city, Oklahoma – **Tul-san** /'talsən/ *noun*

Tu-ni-sia /tu'ni:ʒjə/ : country in Africa – **Tu-ni-sian** /tu'ni:ʒjən/ *adj* or *noun*

Tur-key /'təki/ : country in Asia and Europe – **Turk** /'tək/ *noun* – **Turk-ish** /'təkɪʃ/ *adj*

Turk-men-i-stan /tək,mənə'stæn/ : country in Asia – **Turk-men** /'təkmən/ *adj* or *noun* – **Turk-me-ni-an** /,tək-'minijən/ *adj*

Turks and Cai-cos /,təksənd'keɪkəs/ : two groups of British islands in the West Indies

Tus-ca-ny /'tʌskəni/ : region of Italy – **Tus-can** /'tʌskən/ *adj* or *noun*

Tu-va-lu /tu'vɑ:lu/ : island country in the Pacific Ocean

Tyre /'tajə/ : city in ancient Phoenicia – **Tyr-i-an** /'tɪrijən/ *adj* or *noun*

Tyrol see TIROL – **Ty-ro-le-an** /tə'roulijən/ or **Ty-ro-lese** /,tɪrə'li:z/ *adj* or *noun*

Ufa /u'fɑ:/ : city in Russia

Ugan-da /ju'gændə/ : country in Africa – **Ugan-dan** /ju'gændən/ *adj* or *noun*

Ukraine /ju'kreɪn/ : country in Europe – **Ukrai-ni-an** /ju-'kreɪnijən/ *adj* or *noun*

Ul-san /'u:lsɑ:n/ : city in South Korea

Ul-ster /'ʌlstə/ : region of Ireland – **Ul-ster-ite** /'ʌlstə,raɪt/ *noun*

Un-gava Peninsula /,ʌn'gævə/ – the Ungava Peninsula : part of Quebec, Canada

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics or **Soviet Union** – the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics or the Soviet Union : former country of Europe and Asia

United Arab Emirates – the United Arab Emirates : country in Arabia

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland or **United Kingdom** – the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland or the United Kingdom : country in Europe

United Nations – the United Nations : political organization with headquarters in the U.S., in New York City

United States of America or **United States** – the United States of America or the United States : country in North America – **American** *adj* or *noun*

Upper Peninsula – the Upper Peninsula : area in the U.S., in Michigan

Ural /'jʊrəl/

1 the Ural Mountains *also* the Urals : mountains in Russia and Kazakhstan

2 the Ural River *also* the Ural : river in Russia and Kazakhstan

Uru-guay /'urə,gwɑɪ/

1 : country in South America

2 the Uruguay River : river in South America

– **Uru-guay-an** /,urə'gwajən/ *adj* or *noun*

Ürüm-qi /u'rʊm'ʃi/ : city in China

Utah /'ju:,tɑ:/ : state of the U.S. – **Utah-an** /'ju:,tɑ:n/ *adj* or *noun* – **Utahn** /'ju:,tɑ:n/ *noun*

Uz-bek-i-stan /,ʊz,bəkɪ'stæn/ : country in Asia

Va-do-da-ra /və'doudə,rɑ:/ : city in India

Va-len-cia /və'lenʃijə/ : region of Spain

Val-le-jo /və'lejou/ : U.S. city, California

Van-cou-ver /væn'ku:və/

1 : U.S. city, Washington

2 : island in British Columbia, Canada

3 : city in British Columbia, Canada

Van-u-atu /,væn,wɑ:'tu:/ : island country in the Pacific Ocean

Va-ra-na-si /və'rɑ:nəsi/ : city in India

Vat-i-can City /'væɪkən/ : independent state within Rome, Italy

Vaughan /'vɑ:n/ : city in Ontario, Canada

Vegas see LAS VEGAS

Ven-e-zu-e-la /,venə'zweɪlə/ : country in South America – **Ven-e-zu-e-lan** /,venə'zweɪlən/ *adj* or *noun*

Ven-ice /'venəs/ : city in Italy – **Ve-ne-tian** /və'ni:fən/ *adj* or *noun*

Ven-tu-ra /ven'turə/ or *officially* **San Buen-a-ven-tu-ra** /,sæn,bwenə,ven'turə/ : U.S. city, California

Ver-mont /və'mɑ:nt/ : state of the U.S. – **Ver-mont-er** /və'mɑ:ntə/ *noun*

Ve-su-vi-us or **Mount Vesuvius** /və'su:vijəs/ : volcano in Italy

Vi-en-na /vi'enə/ : city in Austria – **Vi-en-nese** /,vijə'ni:z/ *adj* or *noun*

Vie-ques /vi'eɪkeɪs/ : island of the U.S., in Puerto Rico

Viet-nam /vijət'nɑ:m/ : country in Asia – **Viet-nam-ese** /vijətnə'miz/ *adj* or *noun*

Vil-la Gus-ta-vo A. Ma-de-ro /'vijagu'stɑ:vou,ɑ:mɑ-'ðeɪrou/ : city in Mexico

Vir-gin-ia /və'dʒɪnjə/

1 : state of the U.S.

2 **Virginia Beach** : U.S. city, Virginia

– **Vir-gin-ian** /və'dʒɪnjən/ *adj* or *noun*

Vir-gin Islands – the Virgin Islands : group of British and U.S. islands in the West Indies

Vi-sa-lia /vaɪ'seɪljə/ : U.S. city, California

Voj-vo-di-na /'voɪvɑ,di:nə/ : region of Serbia

Vol-ga /'vɑ:lgə, 'voulgə/ – the Volga River *also* the Volga : river in Russia

Vol-go-grad /'vɑ:lgə,græd/ : city in Russia

Wa-co /'weɪkou/ : U.S. city, Texas

Wai-ki-ki /,waɪkɪ'ki:/ : section of the U.S. city of Honolulu, in Hawaii

Wake Island /'weɪk/ : U. S. island in the Pacific Ocean

Wal·den Pond /'wɑːldən/ : pond in the U.S., in Massachusetts

Wales /'weɪlz/ : part of the United Kingdom – **Welsh** /'wɛlʃ/ *adj or noun*

Wal·lo·nia /wɑ'ləʊniə/ : region of Belgium

War·ren /'wɒrən/ : U.S. city, Michigan

War·saw /'wɒr,sɑː/ : city in Poland

Wash·ing·ton /'wɑːʃɪŋtən-/

1 : state of the U.S.

2 : city in the U.S. that has the same boundaries as the District of Columbia

– **Wash·ing·to·nian** /,wɑːʃɪŋ'təʊniən/ *adj or noun*

Wa·ter·bury /'wɑːtə,beri/ : U.S. city, Connecticut

Wa·ter·loo /,wɑːtə'luː/ : city in Ontario, Canada

Wel·land Canal /'wɛlənd/ – **the Welland Canal** : canal in Ontario, Canada, connecting Lake Erie with Lake Ontario

West Bank – the West Bank : area of the Middle East

West Co·vi·na /kou'vi:nə/ : U.S. city, California

Western Hemisphere – the Western Hemisphere : half of the Earth west of the Atlantic Ocean

Western Sahara or the Western Sahara : area in Africa

– **Western Saharan** *adj*

West In·dies /'ɪndɪz/ – **the West Indies** : islands between southeastern North America and northern South America

– **West Indian** *adj or noun*

West·min·ster /'west,mɪnstə/ : U.S. city, Colorado

West·pha·lia /west'feɪljə/ : region of Germany – **West·pha·lian** /west'feɪljən/ *adj or noun*

West Valley City : U.S. city, Utah

West Virginia : state of the U.S. – **West Virginian** *adj or noun*

Whit·by /'wɪtbi/ : town in Ontario, Canada

Whit·ney, Mount /'wɪtni/ : mountain in the U.S., in California

Wich·i·ta /'wɪtʃə,tɑː/

1 : U.S. city, Kansas

2 **Wichita Falls** : U.S. city, Texas

Wil·liams·burg /'wɪljəmz,bəg/ : U.S. city, Virginia

Wind·sor /'wɪnzə/ : city in Ontario, Canada

Win·ni·peg /'wɪnə,peg/ : city in Manitoba, Canada – **Win·ni·peg·ger** /'wɪnə,pegə/ *noun*

Win·ni·pe·sau·kee, Lake /,wɪnəpə'sɑːki/ : lake in the U.S., in New Hampshire

Win·ston–Sa·lem /,wɪnstən'seɪləm/ : U.S. city, North Carolina

Wis·con·sin /wɪ'skɑːnsən/ : state of the U.S. – **Wis·con·sin·ite** /wɪ'skɑːnsə,nait/ *noun*

Worces·ter /'wʊstə/ : U.S. city, Massachusetts

Wu·han /'wu'hɑːn/ : city in China

Wy·o·ming /waɪ'oumɪŋ/ : state of the U.S. – **Wy·o·ming·ite** /waɪ'oumɪŋ,aɪt/ *noun*

Xi'an /'ʃiː'ɑːn/ : city in China

Xianggang see HONG KONG

Xizang see TIBET

Yan·gon /,jɑːŋ'ɡoun/ *or formerly* **Ran·goon** /ræn'ɡuːn/ : city in Myanmar

Yangtze see CHANG

Ye·ka·te·rin·burg /jɪ'kætərən,bəg/ : city in Russia

Yel·low·stone National Park /'jelou,stoun/ : national park in the U.S., in Wyoming, Idaho, and Montana

Ye·men /'jemən/ : country in Arabia – **Ye·me·ni** /'jeməni/ *adj or noun* – **Ye·men·ite** /'jemə,nait/ *adj or noun*

Yen·i·sey /,jɪni'seɪ/ – **the Yenisey River** *also* **the Yenisey** : river in Russia

Ye·re·van /,jerə'vɑːn/ : city in Armenia

Yo·ko·ha·ma /,jɒkɒu'hɑːmə/ : city in Japan

Yon·kers /'jɑːŋkəz/ : U.S. city, New York

York /'jɒək/ : former city in Ontario, Canada

Yo·sem·i·te Falls /jou'seməti/ : waterfall in the U.S., in California

Yu·ca·tán Peninsula /,ju:kə'tæn/ – **the Yucatan Penin·sula** : part of Mexico and Central America

Yu·go·sla·via /,ju:gou'slɑːvɪə/ : former country in Europe

– **Yu·go·slav** /,ju:gou'slɑːv/ *or* **Yu·go·sla·vi·an** /,ju:gou'slɑːvɪən/ *adj or noun*

Yu·kon /'juː,kɑːn/

1 **the Yukon River** *also* **the Yukon** : river in the Yukon Territory and Alaska

2 **the Yukon Territory** : territory of Canada

Zaire see CONGO 1

Zam·be·zi /zæm'biːzi/ – **the Zambezi River** *also* **the Zambezi** : river in Africa

Zam·bia /'zæmbɪə/ : country in Africa – **Zam·bi·an** /'zæmbɪən/ *adj or noun*

Zan·zi·bar /'zænzə,bɑː/ : island of Tanzania

Zheng·zhou /'ʒʌŋ'ʒəʊ/ : city in China

Zi·bo /'dzɹ'boʊ/ : city in China

Zim·ba·bwe /zɪm'bɑːbwi/ *or formerly* **Rho·de·sia** /rou'diːzə/ : country in Africa – **Zim·ba·bwe·an** /zɪm'bɑːbwiən/ *adj or noun*

Zu·rich /'zʊrɪk/ : city in Switzerland – **Zu·rich·er** /'zʊrɪkə/ *noun*

English Grammar Review

This section provides a review of the main elements of English grammar.

THE PARTS OF SPEECH

This dictionary identifies the eight traditional parts of speech. We will look at each of them in turn.

Nouns

Nouns, the largest class of words in English (and in most languages), are the names of things, people, animals, places, qualities, actions, and ideas. A noun that refers to one of these is **singular**, while a noun that refers to more than one of these is **plural**. A noun is usually a single word, but not always: *cake*, *shoes*, *school bus*, and *time and a half* are all nouns.

For learners of English, the most important feature of a noun is whether it can be counted. A **count noun** is a noun that can be used after *a* or *an* or after a number (or another word that means “more than one”). Count nouns have both singular and plural forms and can be used with both singular and plural verb forms.

A *letter* for you is on the table. *Letters* for you arrive regularly.

That *man* is his partner. The two *men* are partners in the business.

One *person* came in at noon. A few *people* are going to be late.

Can I use your *cell phone*? Our *cell phones* aren't working here.

Sometimes the plural form of a count noun is the same as its singular form.

I saw a *deer* in my yard yesterday. There are a lot of *deer* in the woods near my house.

A **noncount** (or **mass**) **noun** refers to something that cannot be counted. Noncount nouns are normally not used after the words *a* or *an* or after a number. They have only one form and are used with singular verb forms.

The *rain* is still coming down heavily.

The *information* was unclear.

Her *despair* now seems even deeper.

A few noncount nouns look like plurals but are used with the singular forms of verbs.

Physics is what he likes best.

The *news* that morning was good.

Gerunds, which are nouns that are identical to the **present participle** (*-ing* form) of a verb, are also noncount nouns.

I enjoy *swimming* more than *running*.

Her *crying* made me sad.

Not all nouns fall into the categories **count** and **noncount**. Nouns which only ever refer to one thing are called **singular nouns**.

Saturn is the sixth planet from the sun.

We heard a terrible *din* in the alley.

A **plural noun** refers to more than one person or thing, or sometimes to something that has two main parts. Plural nouns have only one form and are used with plural verb forms.

Townspeople are invited to a forum on the project.

These *scissors* are dull.

Her gray *pants* were being cleaned.

A particular noun can have any or all of these kinds of uses.

[*count*] I've read that book several *times*.

[*noncount*] *Time* seemed to stop when I saw him for the first time.

[*singular*] The *time* is 3:22.

[*plural*] Fuel costs three *times* as much as it did five years ago.

Other categories that can be used to describe nouns include **common nouns** and **proper nouns**. A common noun refers to a person, place, or thing but is not the name of a particular person, place, or thing. Examples are *animal*, *sunlight*, and

happiness. A proper noun is the name of a particular person, place, or thing, and it begins with a capital letter: *Abraham Lincoln*, *Argentina*, and *World War I* are all proper nouns.

A **collective noun** is a noun that names a group of people or things. It is sometimes unclear whether the verb for a collective noun should be singular or plural. In the United States, such nouns as *company*, *team*, *herd*, *public*, and *class*, as well as the names of companies, teams, etc., are treated as singular, but in the United Kingdom they are often treated as plural.

The *jury* *has* [= (Brit) *have*] been seated.

The *crowd* *was* [= (Brit) *were*] restless.

The *committee* *is* [= (Brit) *are*] meeting now.

The British royal family *is* [= (Brit) *are*] partly German.

General Electric *is* [= (Brit) *are*] hoping for a contract with Kuwait.

Though English lacks grammatical **gender** (masculine, feminine, and neuter categories for words), the actual sex of a person or animal is evident in some nouns (*landlady*, *husband*, *bull*, *queen*, etc.). Feminine gender is often shown by the endings *-ess* and *-woman*, and masculine gender is often shown by the ending *-man*.

Pronouns

A **pronoun** is a word that is used instead of a noun or noun phrase. Pronouns refer to either a noun that has already been mentioned or to a noun that does not need to be named specifically.

The most common pronouns are the **personal pronouns**. These refer to the person or people speaking or writing (**first person**), the person or people being spoken to (**second person**), or other people or things (**third person**). Several of the personal pronouns have singular and plural forms. Like nouns, personal pronouns can function as either the **subject** of a verb or the **object** of a verb or preposition. Most of the personal pronouns have different subject and object forms.

as subject			
	singular	plural	
1st person	I	we	
2nd person	you	you	
3rd person	he, she, it	they	

as object			
	singular	plural	
1st person	me	us	
2nd person	you	you	
3rd person	him, her, it	them	

She likes *him*, but *he* loves *her*.

I sent *them* a wedding gift, and *they* thanked *me*.

We were late, and the train left without *us*.

I, *me*, *you*, *he*, *she*, *him*, *her*, *his*, *we*, and *us* can refer to people (most of these can also refer to animals) but not to things. *It* can refer to animals or things. *They* and *them* can refer to people, animals, or things.

The **interrogative pronouns**—particularly *what*, *which*, *who*, *whom*, and *whose*—introduce questions for which a noun is the answer.

What are you taking?

Which do you prefer?

Who's at the door?

For *whom* are you working?

Whose is this?

(The less common interrogative pronouns include *whoever*, *whomever*, *whichever*, and *whatever*.) Interrogative pronouns are neither singular nor plural. *What*, *which*, and *whose* may also be **interrogative adjectives**; see p. 1933.

Possessive pronouns refer to things or people that belong to someone. The main possessive pronouns are *mine*, *yours*, *his*, *hers*, *its*, *ours*, and *theirs*. Possessive pronouns take the place of a **possessive adjective** (see p. 1933) plus a noun.

It's *my* book. = It's *mine*.

That's *his* computer. = That's *his*.

This is *our* house. = This is *ours*.

Which are *your* kids? = Which are *yours*?

See Possession, p. 1948.

The four **demonstrative pronouns**—*this*, *that*, *these*, and *those*—distinguish the person or thing being referred to from other people or things. *This* and *these* indicate people or things that are here, nearby, or in the present. *That* and *those* are used to indicate people or things that are not here, not nearby, or in the past or future. The demonstrative pronouns are identical to the **demonstrative adjectives** (see p. 1932).

This situation is unfortunate. = *This* is unfortunate.

Who thought of *that* idea? = Who thought of *that*?

These dancers will replace *those* dancers.
= *These* will replace *those*.

Relative pronouns introduce **subordinate clauses**. (A subordinate clause is part of a sentence that includes a subject and verb but does not form a sentence by itself; see p. 1945.) The main relative pronouns are *that*, *which*, *who*, *whom*, *what*, and *whose*; others include *whoever*, *whomever*, *whatever*, and *whichever*. Relative pronouns are neither singular nor plural.

She liked the students *who* talked in class.
The design *that* Stanley drew was quite odd.
The prizes go to *whoever* finishes first.

Reflexive pronouns refer back to the subject of a sentence or clause and are formed by adding *-self* or *-selves* to a personal pronoun or **possessive adjective** (p. 1933).

myself	ourselves
yourself	yourselves
himself, herself, itself	themselves

You think of *yourself* as a good person.
She told *herself* that it would be all right.
We were afraid the *children* might harm *themselves*.

Reflexive pronouns are also sometimes used for emphasis.

I'm sending my brother since *I* can't be there *myself*.

Indefinite pronouns do not refer to a specific person or thing. The most important indefinite pronouns include:

all	everything	nothing
another	few	one
any	less	the other
anybody	little	others
anyone	many	several
anything	more	some
both	most	somebody
each	much	someone
either	neither	something
enough	no one	such
everybody	nobody	
everyone	none	

No one wants to leave yet.
Several of the students hadn't arrived.
He finished his drink and asked for *another*.
They didn't choose *anybody* from my class.
One doesn't like to think of such things.

Most of the indefinite pronouns may also be used as **indefinite adjectives** (see p. 1932).

The words *it* and *there* can also be used like pronouns when the rules of grammar require a subject but no noun is actually being referred to. Both are usually used at the beginning of a sentence or clause.

It was almost noon.
It's raining.
It's very odd.
Sunday might be better, but *it* doesn't really matter.
There is some cake left.
There are many reasons to doubt him.

Agreement between a pronoun and the noun or pronoun that it refers to is essential (that is, a pronoun and the noun or pronoun that it refers to must be alike grammatically). There are three kinds of agreement.

First, a personal, possessive, or reflexive pronoun must agree in *person* with the noun or pronoun it refers to. The first person pronouns (*I, me, mine, myself, we, us, ours, ourselves*) can refer only to the person or persons speaking or writing. The second person pronouns (*you, yours, yourself, yourselves*) refer to the person or persons being spoken or written to. The third person pronouns (*he, she, it, they, him, her, them, his, hers, its, theirs, himself, herself, itself, themselves*) refer to everyone and everything else.

We already have *ours*.
You may serve *yourself*.

Second, most pronouns must agree in *number* with the noun or pronoun that they refer to. (Interrogative and relative pronouns do not indicate number.) A singular pronoun must refer to one person or thing, and a plural pronoun must refer to more than one person or thing.

That is the only *choice* we have.
Those are the only *choices* we have.

Finally, a personal pronoun must agree in *gender* with the noun or pronoun that it refers to (that is, a personal pronoun must match the person's sex). Animals are often treated as neuter.

He only drives *his* motorcycle on the week-ends.
Antonia joined *her* father for lunch downtown.
The cat crept into the yard for *its* evening meal.

Number and gender together sometimes create a pronoun problem in the third person singular. English has no third person singular personal pronoun that can be used for both male and female people. Traditionally, *he, his, him, and himself* have been used when referring to someone whose sex is not known. However, this is now often regarded as sexist. Therefore, "he or she," "his or her," "him or her," and "himself or herself" are now often used instead, and the plural pronouns *they, their, them, and themselves* are used even more often.

Anyone can win if *they* buy a ticket. = Anyone can win if *he or she* buys a ticket.
Everyone has to bring *their* own lunch. = Everyone has to bring *his or her* own lunch.

Some people disapprove of using a plural pronoun in such cases because it does not display agreement in number. The use is very common, however, in speech and informal writing.

Pronouns, like nouns, must also agree with their *verbs* in person and number.

It is possible.

We're glad about that.

Since *-body*, *-one*, and *-thing* are singular forms, the indefinite pronouns *anybody*, *anyone*, *anything*, *everybody*, *everyone*, *everything*, *nobody*, *no one*, *nothing*, *somebody*, *someone*, and *something* are treated as singular.

Everybody is welcome.

Someone has to tell her.

Everything is fine.

Another, *each*, *either*, *neither*, *one*, and *(the) other* are also treated as singular.

I have six bowls for sale, and *each costs* \$10.

There are two nurses on staff, but *neither is* here right now.

Verbs

This section provides a brief introduction to *verbs*. They are discussed at greater length at The English Verb System, p. 1936.

Verbs are words that show an action, occurrence, or state of being. Almost every sentence requires a verb. The basic form of a verb is known as its *infinitive*.

call	beat
love	go

See Infinitives, p. 1940.

Almost all verbs have two other important forms called *participles*. Participles are forms that are used to create several verb *tenses* (forms that are used to show when an action happened); they can also be used as *adjectives*. The *present participle* always ends in *-ing*.

calling	beating
loving	going

(There is also a kind of noun, called a *gerund*, that is identical in form to the present participle form of a verb.)

The *past participle* usually ends in *-ed*. However, many past participles have irregular endings.

called	beaten
loved	gone

See Participles, p. 1940.

The verb's past tense (see p. 1937) usually has the same *-ed* form as the past participle. For many verbs, however, the past tense is irregular. An irregular past tense is not always identical to an irregular past participle.

called	beat
loved	went

The infinitive form, past tense, and past partici-

ple are often called the *principal parts* of the verb. Sometimes the present participle is also included in the principal parts. From these, all the tenses and forms of almost any verb can be created. A *regular verb* forms its past tense and past participle with *-ed*. An *irregular verb* forms either its past tense or its past participle, or both, without *-ed*.

infinitive	past tense	past participle
call	called	called
love	loved	loved
beat	beat	beaten
go	went	gone

Many common English verbs are irregular. See a list of these at Irregular Verbs, p. 1953.

A *transitive verb* is a verb that requires a *direct object*, which is a noun, pronoun, or noun phrase that follows it and completes the sentence's meaning by indicating the person or thing that receives the action of the verb.

The kids *like pickles*.

That really *annoys me*.

Have they *sold their house* yet?

An *intransitive verb* is not used with a direct object.

Her aunt *died* suddenly last week.

Someone was *coughing* loudly.

A single verb can have both transitive and intransitive uses.

They are *playing* soccer.

They've been *playing* all afternoon.

Transitive verb entries or senses in this dictionary are labeled [+obj], while intransitive entries or senses are labeled [no obj]. See Transitive and Intransitive Verbs, p. 1941.

In most sentences that contain a transitive verb, the subject is the person or thing that performs the verb's action. However, sometimes the subject is a person or thing that is affected by the action. Sentences of the first type represent *active voice*; those of the second type represent *passive voice*.

My grandfather *built* the barn.

The barn *was built* by my grandfather.

See Active and Passive Voice, p. 1941.

A *linking verb*, such as *be*, *seem*, *look*, *become*, or *feel*, connects a noun subject with an adjective or with a noun that is not a direct object. The most common linking verb is *be*.

They're tired and hungry.

His father *was* a lawyer.

Some linking verbs involve the five senses. Others involve mental impressions. Still others have the basic meaning "become" or "continue to be."

Her voice *sounded* familiar.

It *feels* cold in here.

She *seems* very nervous.

It *appears* later than it is.

His ears *turned* red.

They *remained* best friends.

The label [*linking verb*] identifies these verbs in this dictionary.

An **auxiliary verb** is a verb that is used with another verb to show the verb's tense, to form a question, etc.

The work *was* completed last year.

Where *did* they go?

The rain *has* stopped.

The label [*auxiliary verb*] identifies these verbs in this dictionary. See Auxiliary Verbs, p. 1938.

Modal verbs (also called **modals**, **modal auxiliaries**, and **modal auxiliary verbs**) are auxiliary verbs like *can*, *must*, and *might* that are used with another verb to express ideas such as possibility, necessity, and permission.

They *can* leave whenever they want.

She *must* return the key this morning.

It *might* be too late.

The label [*modal verb*] identifies these verbs in this dictionary. See Modal Verbs, p. 1939.

Phrasal verbs are usually two-word verbs made from a one-word verb and an adverb or a preposition. (Occasionally they are three-word verbs that include *both* an adverb and a preposition.) Phrasal verbs have meanings that are quite different from the meaning of the simple verb by itself.

They're driving to Caracas to *pick up* two friends.

The boss told us that we could *knock off* at 4:00.

Tired after the long trip, they *turned in* after dinner.

The label [*phrasal verb*] identifies these verbs in this dictionary. See Phrasal Verbs, p. 1943.

English verbs may use three different **moods**. A mood is a set of verb forms that show whether the action or state expressed by the verb is thought of as a fact, a command, or a wish or possibility. The very common **indicative** mood is used for ordinary statements.

The strawberries *are* already ripe.

The **imperative** mood is used for commands and instructions.

Let me tie your shoe.

Run!

The **subjunctive** mood is used to express something different from simple fact, such as wishes, possibilities, or requests.

She would prefer that he *go* alone.

See Mood, p. 1942.

Adjectives

Adjectives describe nouns and pronouns. They may name qualities of all kinds: *huge*, *red*, *forty*, *angry*, *African*, *unique*, *talking*, *lost*, *female*, *rare*, *thoughtful*, *ancient*, *technical*, *best*, etc.

An adjective usually comes right before a noun.

a high mountain

fifteen people

the dull, heavy beat

When an adjective follows a linking verb such as *be* or *seem*, it is called a **predicate adjective**.

That building is *huge*.

The workers seem *angry*.

Most adjectives can be used as predicate adjectives. In this dictionary, adjectives that cannot be used as predicate adjectives include the note "*always used before a noun*." Similarly, the few adjectives that can *only* be used as predicate adjectives are identified with the note "*not used before a noun*."

Some adjectives describe qualities that can exist in different amounts or degrees. To do this, the adjective will either change in form (usually by adding *-er* or *-est*) or will be used with words like *more*, *most*, *very*, *slightly*, etc.

the *older* girls

the *longest* day of the year

a *very strong* feeling

more expensive than that one

Other adjectives describe qualities that do not vary.

nuclear energy

a *medical* doctor

See Comparison, p. 1949.

The most common of all adjectives are the two (or three) **articles**. An article always comes before the noun it describes and before any other adjectives that also describe the noun. Articles are used to show whether or not the noun refers to a specific person or thing. The **indefinite article** is *a*; it identifies a single, but not specific, person or thing. *An* is used instead of *a* whenever the word following it begins with a vowel sound.

Are you going to buy *a* house?

The smile is *a* universal sign of pleasure.

It's *an* honor to have been invited.

I've got *an* uncle in Miami.

The **definite article** is *the*; it is used to refer to identified or specified people or things, both singular and plural.

Will you be painting *the* house this summer?
He's *the* uncle I was telling you about.
Please put *the* dishes away.

A singular count noun (such as *idea* or *bird*) or singular noun (such as *patter*) is always preceded by a definite or indefinite article or other adjective.

The is used with both count and noncount nouns. It is used when the noun is something that the reader or listener already knows, or something that will be described in the sentence. It is also used when the thing is unique, or when a phrase following the noun distinguishes it from others of its kind.

Give me *the* keys.
That's not *the* subject we were discussing.
The prime minister of Turkey had been invited.
That was *the* news that they wanted to hear.
She's *the* kindest woman I know.

The is not used when a noun is used to refer to a thing in general or to all things of its kind.

I like salsa music.
Cows eat grass.
Water is heavier than oil.

The meaning of these sentences changes if *the* is inserted before the nouns. For example, "I like the salsa music" means "I like the particular salsa music that is playing now."

The is rarely used with proper nouns.

The hotel is on Eighth Avenue. [not *The hotel is on the Eighth Avenue.*]
I caught the fish in Lake Baikal. [not *I caught the fish in the Lake Baikal.*]

However, it is used with some geographical names that end with a general term (such as *River*, *Bay*, or *Mountains*), and often with proper nouns that occur in the plural.

in *the* Sahara Desert
the Geneva Conventions

The four **demonstrative adjectives**—*this*, *that*, *these*, and *those*—are identical to the **demonstrative pronouns** (p. 1928). They are used to distinguish the person or thing being described from others of the same category or class. *This* and *these* describe people or things that are nearby, or in the present. *That* and *those* are used to describe people or things that are not here, not nearby, or in the past or future. These adjectives, like *a*, *an*,

and *the*, always come before any other adjectives that modify a noun.

Do you want *this* one here or *that* blue one over there?
She answered *that* question easily, but *these* new questions will be more difficult.
I was happier in *those* early days.
We'll deal with *those* problems when they arise.

An **indefinite adjective** describes a whole group or class of people or things, or a person or thing that is not identified or familiar. The most common indefinite adjectives are:

all	half	one, two,
another	least	three, etc.
any	less	other
both	little	several
each	many	some
either	more	such
enough	most	whole
every	much	
few	neither	

Any pen will do.
Some people were unhappy with the decision.
He had *other* reasons.

Adjectives that express amount or number are sometimes called **quantifiers**, and many quantifiers are indefinite adjectives. Some of these are used only with count nouns.

both friends
few friends
two friends
several friends
many friends

Others are used only with noncount nouns.

little cash
less cash
much cash

And others can be used with both count and noncount nouns.

all friends/cash
any friends/cash
enough friends/cash
most friends/cash
no friends/cash
some friends/cash

Most indefinite adjectives can also be used as **indefinite pronouns** (see p. 1929).

There isn't *any* left.

Some were unhappy with the decision.

Five of them were caught, but three *others* escaped.

The **interrogative adjectives**—primarily *which*, *what*, and *whose*—are used to begin questions. They can also be used as **interrogative pronouns** (see p. 1928).

Which horse did you bet on? = *Which* did you bet on?

What songs did they sing? = *What* did they sing?

Whose coat is this? = *Whose* is this?

See Questions, p. 1946.

The **possessive adjectives**—*my*, *your*, *his*, *her*, *its*, *our*, *their*—tell you who has, owns, or has experienced something.

He admired *her* intelligence.

Our cat is 14 years old.

They said *their* trip was wonderful.

See also the discussion of **possessive pronouns**, p. 1928.

Proper adjectives are based on proper nouns and start with a capital letter.

The best gift was a box of *French* chocolates.

Charles Dickens wrote during the *Victorian* era.

Their children attended a *Christian* school.

Since English lacks grammatical **gender**, adjectives do not change their form to match the gender of a noun.

my *weird* sister

my *weird* brother

Nouns often function like adjectives. When they do, they are called **attributive nouns**. Most nouns can be used in this way. When they are, they always precede the nouns they are modifying. A noun used like an adjective does not change its form, except that it usually omits any plural ending.

his *research* paper

the *apartment* building

a *lemon* drink

Two or more attributive nouns may be used together. Unlike other adjectives, they are never separated by commas. When attributive nouns and true adjectives are used together, the true adjectives precede the attributive nouns.

new *work safety* rules

the experienced *summer baseball league* staff

When two or more adjectives are used before a noun, they should be put in proper **order**. Any ar-

ticle (*a*, *an*, *the*), demonstrative adjective (*that*, *these*, etc.), indefinite adjective (*another*, *both*, etc.), or possessive adjective (*her*, *our*, etc.) always comes first. If there is a number, it comes first or second. As noted above, true adjectives always come before attributive nouns. The ordering of true adjectives will vary, but the following order is the most common: *opinion word* → *size* → *age* → *shape* → *color* → *nationality* → *material*. (In the examples below, only the true adjectives and not the attributive nouns are shown in italics.)

the old Russian coins

those first few words

valuable company phone records

his three clean shirts

brutal young gang members

several large, bluish-green, wooden chairs

Participles are often used like ordinary adjectives. They may come before a noun or after a linking verb. A present participle (an *-ing* word) describes the person or thing that causes something; for example, a *boring* conversation is one that bores you. A past participle (usually an *-ed* word) describes the person or thing who has been affected by something; for example, a *bored* person is one who has been affected by boredom.

They had just watched an *exciting* soccer game.

The instructions were *confusing*.

The *freezing* wind kept everyone indoors all day.

She's *excited* about the trip to North Africa.

Several *confused* students were asking questions about the test.

The lake was *frozen*.

See Participles, p. 1940.

Adverbs

Adverbs usually modify verbs. They may also modify adjectives, other adverbs, phrases, or even entire sentences.

An adverb answers the question "When?" "Where?" "How?" "How much?" "How long?" or "How often?"

The elections are coming *soon*.

They only shopped *locally*.

She was *happily* married to a truck driver.

The roads are *very* steep.

He stopped by *briefly* to say hello.

My son calls me *regularly*.

Most adverbs are formed by adding *-ly* to an adjective. If the adjective already ends in *-y*, the *-y* usually changes to *-i*.

- bold / boldly
- solid / solidly
- interesting / interestingly
- heavy / heavily
- unnecessary / unnecessarily

Common adverbs that do not end in *-ly* include:

again	more	today
also	never	too
always	not	very
as	now	well
even	often	when
ever	sometimes	where
here	soon	why
how	then	
just	there	

The words *when*, *where*, *why*, and *how* are called **interrogative adverbs** when they begin a question.

- When* did the shooting occur?
- Where* is the proof?
- Why* was he so late?
- How* did they get here?

See Questions, p. 1946.

The **relative adverbs**—*where*, *when*, and *why* (*how* is sometimes included as well)—introduce **subordinate** (or **dependent**) **clauses** (clauses that do not form simple sentences by themselves; see p. 1945).

- This is the house *where* I grew up.
- They go to bed *when* they want to.
- He wondered *why* the door was open.

See Complex Sentences, p. 1945.

When an adverb modifies a whole sentence or clause, it is called a **sentence adverb**. Words such as *fortunately*, *frankly*, *hopefully*, and *luckily* are generally used as sentence adverbs and usually express the speaker's feelings about the content of the sentence. Such adverbs normally come at the beginning of a sentence, but may also come in the middle or at the end.

- Unfortunately*, Friday will be cloudy.
- Friday, *unfortunately*, will be cloudy.
- Friday will be cloudy, *unfortunately*.

An adverb may not come between a verb and its direct or indirect object.

- They *soon* informed the admiral. [not *They informed soon the admiral.*]

- The trees were *slowly* losing their leaves. [not *The trees were losing slowly their leaves.*]
- Later* they bought him a new bike. [not *They bought later him a new bike.* or *They bought him later a new bike.*]

Many adverbs, like many adjectives, describe qualities that can exist in different amounts or degrees.

- This time she was working more *carefully*.
- The bus arrived *sooner* than they expected.
- The most *frequently* used word is probably *the*.

See Comparison, p. 1949.

Many adverbs, such as *past*, *under*, *off*, *along*, and *on*, may also act as **prepositions** (see the section immediately below). A few, such as *however*, *also*, *thus*, and *nevertheless*, may act as **conjunctions** (words that join together other words or groups of words; see p. 1935).

Prepositions

Prepositions, a very important class of words in English, show direction, location, or time, or introduce an object. They are usually followed by an object—a noun, noun phrase, or pronoun. The most common prepositions are:

at	from	on
by	in	to
for	of	with

Also common are:

about	between	outside
above	close to	over
across	down	past
after	during	since
against	except	through
along	inside	toward
among	instead of	under
around	into	until
because of	like	up
before	near	upon
behind	off	within
below	on top of	without
beneath	onto	
beside	out of	

Prepositions typically show how the noun, noun phrase, or pronoun is related to another word in the sentence.

- a friend *of* mine
- the dress *with* the stripes
- hit *by* a car
- no one *except* me

The preposition and its object normally form a **prepositional phrase**; see p. 1944.

A preposition may appear at the end of a sentence or clause, but only when its object comes earlier.

Was he the man she lived *with*?

That isn't what a hammer is *for*.

It's the chair you're sitting *on*.

She just needs someone to talk *to*.

Many prepositions (such as *past*, *under*, *off*, *along*, and *on*) may also act as adverbs. A few (including *before*, *after*, *for*, and *since*) may act as conjunctions (words that join together other words or groups of words).

	preposition	adverb	conjunction
after	I saw them <i>after</i> the game.	We were due at noon, but didn't arrive until <i>after</i> .	Call me <i>after</i> it's over.
for	I baked it <i>for</i> you.		It was true, <i>for</i> I saw it myself.
since	I've waited <i>since</i> noon.	He's never been the same <i>since</i> .	It's been years <i>since</i> I've sung.
past	Walk <i>past</i> the store.	The train had gone <i>past</i> .	
off	It fell <i>off</i> the bed.	The kids wandered <i>off</i> .	

Conjunctions

Conjunctions are words that join together other words or groups of words.

A **coordinating conjunction** connects words, phrases, and clauses of equal importance. The main coordinating conjunctions are *and*, *or*, and *but*.

They bought apples, pears, *and* oranges.

You can wait either on the steps *or* in the car.

Her paintings are pleasant *but* bland.

The dogs barked, *but* he just ignored them.

When placed at the beginning of a sentence, a coordinating conjunction may also link two sentences or paragraphs.

War loomed on the horizon. *But* the country wasn't ready for another war.

She told him that he would have to work to earn her trust. *And* he proceeded to do just that.

A **subordinating conjunction** introduces a **subordinate clause** (a clause that does not form a simple sentence by itself; see p. 1945) and joins it to a **main clause** (a clause that can be used as a simple sentence by itself; see p. 1945).

She waited *until* the students were quiet.

They had been lonely *since* their father left.

See Complex Sentences, p. 1945.

Some conjunctions are used in pairs. The most common pairs are *either . . . or*, *both . . . and*, *neither . . . nor*, and *not only . . . but (also)*. If verbs follow each conjunction, both verbs must be in the same form.

They could *either* continue searching or go to the police.

Both Clara *and* Jeanette graduated from Stanford.

He could *neither* sing *nor* dance.

Not only the money *but also* the jewelry had been taken.

Some adverbs act like conjunctions by linking either two main clauses separated by a semicolon (;) or two separate sentences. They express some effect that the first clause or sentence has on the second one. The most common adverbs that do this are:

accordingly	meanwhile
afterwards	moreover
also	namely
anyway	nevertheless
besides	nonetheless
consequently	otherwise
finally	regardless
for example	similarly
for instance	so
however	still
incidentally	that is
indeed	therefore
in fact	thus
likewise	

They didn't agree; *however*, each understood the other's opinion.

We'll probably regret it; *still*, we really have no choice.

The team has won its last three games. *Thus*, its record for the year is now 15–12.

Interjections

An interjection is a word or phrase that is grammatically independent and mainly expresses feeling rather than meaning.

Oh, what a beautiful house!

Uh-oh, this looks bad.

Well, it's time to say good night.

Actually, *um*, she's not my girlfriend.

Shoot. I thought I'd fixed that.

Interjections are common in speech and are much more common in electronic messages than in other types of writing.

THE ENGLISH VERB SYSTEM

The following sections discuss in detail all the kinds, forms, and functions of English verbs.

Verb Tenses

Tenses are the different forms used by almost all English verbs to show when an action happened. English verb forms are simple, but the ways that verbs may be combined can be complex.

Present Tenses

The **present tense** is used to refer to the period of time that exists now. It always uses the basic form of the verb, called the **infinitive**, except in the **third-person singular**.

I understand	we understand
you understand	you understand
he/she/it understands	they understand

The third-person singular normally adds *-s* to the infinitive. Verbs ending in *-ch*, *-s*, *-sh*, *-x*, and *-z* add *-es*. In verbs ending in *-y* preceded by a consonant, the *-y* changes to *-ies*. (If a vowel precedes the *-y*, the *-y* does not change.) *Do* changes to *does*, *go* changes to *goes*, and *have* changes to *has*.

- The monument *sits* atop a hill.
- She loves him and he *loves* her.
- The iguana sometimes *catches* small birds.
- The road *crosses* a river.
- Her book *mixes* biography and fantasy.
- He *relies* on his parents for money.
- The dog's barking *annoys* our neighbors.
- What *does* she want?

Be is the most irregular of all verbs in the present tense (I *am*, you/we/they *are*, he/she/it *is*).

The present tense is used to talk about something that is true now and most of the time. It is also used for something that happens regularly.

- He *lives* in Nigeria.
- Baghdad *lies* on the Tigris River.
- Do they really *believe* that?
- Haste *makes* waste.
- She *reads* several books a month.
- Buses *come* often on weekdays.

The **present progressive** (or **present continuous**) tense uses *am/are/is* with the **present participle** (*-ing* form) of the main verb.

I am coming	we are coming
you are coming	you are coming
he/she/it is coming	they are coming

The present progressive tense indicates that something is happening right now or is continuing to happen.

- How many miles *are you running* these days?
- The engine *is leaking* oil.
- The prime minister *is traveling* all this week.
- Let's talk later—I'm *eating* lunch.
- She's still *sleeping*.

It is also used to talk informally about events in the near future.

- We're *eating* out tonight.
- Are you coming* next week?

Some verbs or senses of verbs always use the present tense in situations where you might expect the present progressive tense. These include most verbs related to the five senses

- Do you *hear* it? [*not* *Are you hearing it?]
- This *tastes* funny. [*not* *This is tasting funny.*]
- It *feels* heavy. [*not* *It is feeling heavy.*]

and most verbs connected with mental states and functions.

- We only *want* peace. [*not* *We're only wanting peace.*]
- They *believe* him. [*not* *They're believing him.*]
- She *knows* the answer. [*not* *She's knowing the answer.*]
- I don't *remember*. [*not* *I'm not remembering.*]
- That *seems* strange to me. [*not* *That is seeming strange to me.*]

These verbs also include verbs of possession such as *own*, *belong*, and *have*.

- The company *owns* at least forty stores. [*not* *The company is owning at least forty stores.*]
- His aunt *has* a house in the country. [*not* *His aunt is having a house in the country.*]

The label "*not used in progressive tenses*" is used in the book to identify these verbs and verb senses.

Special tenses called the **perfect tenses** are used to show a relationship between two different times. The **present perfect** tense uses *have/has* with the **past participle** (a form usually identical to the past tense that generally expresses completed action).

I have finished	we have finished
you have finished	you have finished
he/she/it has finished	they have finished

The present perfect is used to talk about (1) activities or states that began in the past and are completed at the time of speaking, (2) past activities that have a result in the present, (3) events that have just happened, and (4) events that happened at an unspecified time in the past.

- I *have fixed* the radio.
- This evidence *has influenced* our decision.
- We've *eaten* dinner.
- She *has decided* not to go to college.

Several adverbs that indicate time—*just, since, already, yet, and ever*—are often used with the present perfect to connect the past with the present.

- I've *just returned* from Memphis.
- I saw her Tuesday but I *haven't seen* her *since*.
- We've *already seen* that movie.
- Have you gotten* your grades *yet*?
- Did he ever love* her?

The **present perfect progressive** (or **present perfect continuous**) tense combines *have/has been* and a present participle (-ing form).

I have been studying	we have been studying
you have been studying	you have been studying
he/she/it has been studying	they have been studying

The present perfect progressive tense is used to talk about events that began in the past and continue in the present moment.

- The war *has been raging* since 1997.
- How long *have you been waiting*?
- We've *been painting* the house this weekend.
- Have they been playing* video games all morning?

Past Tenses

The **past tense** is used to talk about events that began and ended in the past. The form of a verb in the past tense is the same in the first person, second person, and third person, and in the singular and plural (except in the verb *be*). For regular verbs, the past tense is normally formed by adding *-ed* (or just *-d* if the verb ends in *-e*) to the infinitive. If the verb ends with a short vowel and a single consonant and is accented on the last syllable, its final consonant is doubled. If it ends in *-y*, the *-y* usually changes to *-i*. (If a vowel precedes the *-y*, the *-y* doesn't change.)

- talk The two women *talked* for hours.
- wave He *waved* to the kids from the window.
- stop They *stopped* at the store.

- try Diplomats *tried* to bring the two sides together.

Irregular verbs have an irregular past-tense form.

- build They *built* a new house on the hill.
- come She *came* at six this morning.
- go The taxi *went* the wrong way.
- speak He *spoke* to the governor about it.

See list of Irregular Verbs, p. 1953.
The **imperfect** tense (also known as the **past progressive** or **past continuous** tense) is formed from *was/were* and a present participle (-ing form).

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| I was sleeping | we were sleeping |
| you were sleeping | you were sleeping |
| he/she/it was sleeping | they were sleeping |

The imperfect tense is used to talk about incomplete actions in the past or about states that continued for a period of time in the past. It is often used in the same sentence with a verb in the past tense.

- We *were driving* home and forgot to stop.
- I bought it when I *was living* in London.

The **past perfect** tense is formed from *had* and a past participle.

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| I had imagined | we had imagined |
| you had imagined | you had imagined |
| he/she/it had imagined | they had imagined |

The past perfect is used to refer to an action that was completed by a particular time in the past. Like the imperfect tense, it often is used in sentences with another verb in the past tense.

- I *had met* him only once before he moved away.
- We *hadn't known* that she had a daughter.

When it is clear what other event is referred to, the clause with the other verb may be omitted.

- I *had met* him only once.
- We *hadn't known*.

The informal verb *used to*, followed by an infinitive, functions much like the simple past tense. *Used to* refers to something that happened or existed in the past but no longer happens or exists. It refers especially to something that happened repeatedly or to a situation that lasted for a period of time.

- This room *used to be* filled with junk.
- When they were first in love, they *used to meet* at night down by the river.

The form "use to" is rarely seen in writing but is heard in informal speech, always with *did* or *didn't*.

- Did you use to go out* with Kate?

We realize we *ought* to leave.
We realized we *ought* to leave.
It *would* be better to remain silent.
She said it *would* be better to remain silent.
He thinks we *should* leave.
He thought we *should* leave.

Must is rarely used in the past tense; *have to* is generally used instead.
We all realize that the factory *must* [=has to] close.
In 1988 the factory *had to* close.

Had better remains the same in the present and past.
They *had better* get there soon.
They knew they *had better* get there soon.

In the present tense, certain modal verbs often have the same meaning as certain others.
We *might* [=may, could] go to the movies tonight.
She *could* [=might, may] have stopped there on the way back.
You *can* [=may] read for an hour before bedtime.
He *should* [=ought to] drive more carefully.

A modal verb has little meaning without another verb. But the other verb is often omitted when it has just been stated, especially in conversation.
“Do you think you’ll stay in Paris?” “I might.”
“He may go to graduate school.” “I think he should.”

For more examples, see the individual entries for these verbs. For the use of *will* and *shall* in the future tenses, see p. 1938. See also Questions, p. 1946; Negation, p. 1948; Active and Passive Voice, p. 1941; Conditional Sentences, p. 1950; and Contractions, p. 1957.

Other Verb Forms

Two kinds of verb forms—*infinitives* and *participles*—have no tense by themselves. They may be used either (1) in combination with some other verb or (2) as some other part of speech, such as a noun or an adjective.

Infinitives

The infinitive is the basic form of the verb. It is used by itself in the present tense.
I’ve done everything but *issue* a formal apology.

Usually, however, it is preceded by *to* and follows another verb that expresses tense, person, and number.

I *needed to sleep* a few more hours.
It was hard *to see* in the dense fog.
College students *like to party* on weekends.

The infinitive without *to* sometimes follows the verbs *make*, *do*, *see*, *feel*, *hear*, and *watch*.
We *watched* him *light* the candles one by one.
Please *make* them *stop*.
Did you ever *see* her *dance*?

A few verbs are always followed by an infinitive without *to*. They are *let*, *have* (when *have* means “to cause, tell, or ask someone to do something”), and the modal verbs.
Don’t *let* him *take* my car.
Have her *bring* us the check.
You *must be* here when I get back.

The *to* infinitive can be used as a noun, adjective, or adverb or (more often) in a noun phrase, adjective phrase, or adverb phrase.

noun phrase:	<i>To learn English</i> is my main goal. Our aim is <i>to make you feel at home</i> .
adjective phrase:	Her attempt <i>to solve the problem</i> failed.
adverb phrase:	He only wanted <i>to help his friends</i> .

In a noun phrase, the *to* infinitive can usually be replaced by a *gerund* (a noun in the form of a present participle).
Learning English is my main goal.
Our aim is *making* you feel at home.

Sometimes an adverb or an adverb phrase comes between *to* and the verb, creating a *split infinitive*. Some native speakers dislike split infinitives, but they are very common.
Today he expected *to finally meet* the great author.

Participles

The two *participles* are required to create verb tenses and are also used as adjectives.
For regular verbs, the *past participle* has the same *-ed* form as the past tense. But for most irregular verbs, it has an irregular form that must be memorized. (See list of Irregular Verbs, p. 1953.) Past participles usually express completed action and are used to form three perfect tenses.

present perfect	have/has learned
past perfect	had learned
future perfect	will have learned

(The past participle *been* is also used for the perfect continuous tenses.)

Many past participles are common adjectives.

Some of his friends are *known* criminals.

He noticed her *worried* expression.

My parents are *excited*.

By now they were *drunk*.

The *exhausted* travelers soon went to bed.

This was their first view of the king's *chosen* bride.

The **present participle** always ends in *-ing*, and is used to refer to action that is happening at the time of speaking or a time spoken of. It is used to form all the progressive verb tenses.

present progressive: am/are/is eating

present perfect

progressive: have/has been eating

imperfect: was/were eating

past perfect

progressive: had been eating

future progressive: will be eating

future perfect

progressive: will have been eating

They *were eating* lunch when the police arrived.

We *had been hoping* you would come.

She'll *be running* in the Boston Marathon.

Like many past participles, many present participles also commonly serve as adjectives.

a very *demanding* boss

the *devastating* storm

another *boring* movie

Some verbs can be followed by either a *to* infinitive or a present participle. For a few of these verbs, including *begin*, *continue*, *hate*, *like*, *love*, *prefer*, and *start*, the meaning of the sentence does not change.

They *began counting* the ballots. = They *began to count* the ballots.

But for the verbs *forget*, *remember*, and *stop*, the meaning may change completely.

They stopped *to watch* the horses. [= They stopped because they wanted to watch the horses.]

They stopped *watching* the horses. [= They were watching the horses but then stopped.]

See also Participial Phrases, p. 1944.

Transitive and Intransitive Verbs

A **direct object** is the person or thing that receives the action of a verb. An **indirect object** is the per-

son or thing that the action is done for or directed to. Objects are always nouns, noun phrases, or pronouns.

Any pronoun object must be in its object form (*me*, *him*, *her*, *us*, *them*, etc.).

I love *her*, and she loves *me*.

Give *it* to *him*.

A verb that is used with a direct object is called a **transitive verb**. A transitive verb may also be used with an indirect object. A verb that is never used with a direct object is an **intransitive verb**. One sense of a verb may be transitive while another sense is intransitive.

The trail up the mountain *climbs* steeply.

Both the children like to *climb* trees.

Also, a single sense of a verb can have both transitive and intransitive uses.

He likes to *read* biographies.

He likes to *read*.

In this dictionary, transitive verbs (and uses and senses) have the label [+ *obj*] and intransitive verbs (and uses and senses) have the label [no *obj*].

An indirect object always comes before a direct object. Many common verbs—including *give*, *take*, *show*, *tell*, *sell*, *get*, *buy*, *explain*, *make*, *find*, *teach*, *write*, *do*, *call*, *ask*, *send*, and *bring*—can be used with both direct and indirect objects.

Find *her* a chair. [=Find a chair for her.]

Can you *read me the letter*? [=Can you read the letter to me?]

Who gave *her lawyers the information*? [=Who gave the information to her lawyers?]

He's saving *Caitlin a piece*. [=He's saving a piece for Caitlin.]

As the examples in brackets show, an indirect object can always be replaced by a *to* or *for* phrase that follows the direct object. But note that you cannot say

Find for her a chair.

Find a chair her.

Active and Passive Voice

In a sentence with an action verb (rather than a linking verb) and a direct object, two features tell us who or what is doing the action, and who or what is receiving the action. One feature is word order. The normal word order in English is *subject* → *verb* → *object*.

The police arrested his wife.

The second feature is the form of the verb. The ordinary form of the verb expresses the **active**

voice; this means that the subject is the one doing the action expressed by the verb. If a verb is instead in the **passive voice**, the subject becomes the person or thing that is acted on or affected by the action.

His wife *was arrested* by the police.

Here, the original object (“his wife”) has become the subject, and the original subject (“the police”) is preceded by “by.”

The passive voice is normally formed by using one or more auxiliary verbs and the past participle of the main verb. See the following examples of active and passive voice in several tenses.

present:	Carelessness <i>causes</i> many accidents. Many accidents <i>are caused</i> by carelessness.
present progressive:	A psychiatrist <i>is treating</i> her. She <i>is being treated</i> by a psychiatrist.
past:	Elvis <i>drove</i> that car. That car <i>was driven</i> by Elvis.
imperfect:	Gang members <i>were watching</i> the house. The house <i>was being watched</i> by gang members.
present perfect:	A 15-year-old <i>has solved</i> the puzzle. The puzzle <i>has been solved</i> by a 15-year-old.
past perfect:	Thugs <i>had robbed</i> him. He <i>had been robbed</i> by thugs.
future (will):	Jennifer <i>will return</i> your car. Your car <i>will be returned</i> by Jennifer.
future (going to):	That team <i>isn't going to defeat</i> Brazil. Brazil <i>isn't going to be defeated</i> by that team.

In informal English, *get* is often used instead of *be* to produce the passive. In questions and in most negative statements, *do* must be used as well.

Her talents often *get* [=are] overlooked.

The dog *got* [=was] fed earlier.

Did you *get* [=were you] asked to speak?

The bills *didn't get* [=weren't] paid.

In a passive sentence, the one doing the action of the verb does not have to be identified.

The puzzle *has been solved*.

Brazil *isn't going to be defeated*.

Thus, you may use the passive voice because (1) it is not important to identify the one doing the action, (2) you do not wish to identify the one doing the action, or (3) you do not know the identity of that person or thing.

When the one doing the action of the verb is identified, the passive voice simply changes the emphasis of the sentence.

Federer *was beaten* by a little-known French player.

Mood

English verbs have three possible forms called **moods**, which usually indicate whether a sentence (1) states a fact or opinion, (2) gives an order, instruction, or suggestion, or (3) expresses a wish or request or an idea that is not a fact. These are known as the **indicative**, the **imperative**, and the **subjunctive**. (A fourth mood, the **interrogative**, is sometimes identified. See Questions, p. 1946.)

Indicative

The **indicative** mood is the mood of ordinary sentences that state facts or opinions and of questions that ask about facts or opinions.

- Nobody *knows* what happened.
- The two countries *were* finally at peace.
- They *will meet* in Berlin next week.
- I *think* it will work.
- What *happened*?
- Will* it work?

Imperative

The **imperative** mood is used for orders and instructions, usually without including the subject *you*. An imperative verb is always identical with the verb's infinitive form.

- Please *stay* here till I get back.
- Cut* along the dotted line.
- Stop*!
- Let* me see.
- Don't* open it yet.

Subjunctive

The only mood that is difficult for learners is the **subjunctive**. The subjunctive mood is used to express wishes, proposals, suggestions, or imagined situations. The subjunctive verb usually appears in one clause in a sentence while an indicative verb appears in another clause.

Verbs that often (but not always) are followed by a verb in the subjunctive include:

advise	order	require
ask	prefer	suggest
demand	propose	urge
desire	recommend	wish
insist	regret	
intend	request	

He *insisted* that she *stop* smoking.

The governor is *demanding* that he *resign*.

They *asked* that you *be* on time tomorrow.

We *recommend* that he *be* punished.

She *wishes* the teacher *were* more helpful.

The subjunctive forms look like ordinary past and present verb forms; thus, they are often called the *past subjunctive* and *present subjunctive*. These differ from the simple past and simple present in only two ways: (1) In the present subjunctive, there is no *-s* at the end of the third-person singular (see the first two sentences above). (2) The verb *be* has only two subjunctive forms: *be* for the present subjunctive (as in the third and fourth sentences) and *were* for the past subjunctive (as in the last sentence).

The present subjunctive actually refers mostly to the future. It is generally used in a clause beginning with *that* (though *that* may often be omitted).

She suggested (that) he *arrive* early.

He desires that the carpenter *leave* space for another bookcase.

See Complex Sentences, p. 1945.

The past subjunctive may refer to the present or the past. Like the present subjunctive, it often occurs in a *that* clause.

I wish (that) you *loved* me.

She wishes (that) she *were* younger.

They talked about him as if he *weren't* even in the room.

The English subjunctive has always been used inconsistently. Native English-speakers often use *should* instead of the present subjunctive and use *was* instead of the past subjunctive's *were*.

She suggested (that) he *should* arrive early.

He desires that the carpenter *should* leave space for another bookcase.

She wishes she *was* younger.

They talked about him as if he *wasn't* even in the room.

An important use of the past subjunctive is in clauses beginning with *if*. See Conditional Sentences, p. 1950.

Phrasal Verbs

A phrasal verb looks like an ordinary verb followed by an adverb or a preposition—or some-

times followed by an adverb *and* a preposition. However, its meaning is different from the meaning of the ordinary verb by itself.

turn The car *turned* left onto a dirt road.
turn up His brother *turned up* [=arrived] just in time to join them.

turn out A large crowd *turned out* [=gathered] to see the President.

turn down She *turned down* [=rejected] several job offers.

The following verbs are the ones that most often form part of phrasal verbs.

break	go	set
bring	hold	sit
carry	look	take
come	make	turn
find	move	work
get	pick	
give	put	

The following adverbs and prepositions are those that most often form part of phrasal verbs.

about	down	out
after	for	over
along	in	through
around/round	into	to
away	off	up
back	on	with
	onto	

Thus, if you are confused by a sentence, it may help to look for these words. In this book, phrasal verbs are defined in alphabetical order after the main definition(s) of an entry and are labeled [*phrasal verb*].

Phrasal-verb tenses are formed like ordinary verb tenses.

They *hang out* a lot.

He *hung out* all day.

We've *been hanging out* for hours.

Some phrasal verbs are transitive and some are intransitive.

When did they *knock down* that house?

What time do you normally *get up*?

Most transitive phrasal verbs can be separated. That is, the direct object may go in the middle of the phrasal verb.

When did they *knock* that house *down*?

If the object is short (one or two words), it usually goes inside the phrasal verb. If it is long, it usually follows the phrasal verb.

She *let* the cat *out*.

She *let out* the children in grades 4 and 5.

If the object is a personal pronoun, it always goes inside.

When did they *knock* it down? [*not* *When did they knock down it?*

She *let* them out. [*not* *She let out them.*]

Some transitive phrasal verbs cannot be separated.

We knew we could *count on* Britain. [*not* *We knew we could count Britain on.*]

The examples at the individual dictionary entries will show whether a particular phrasal verb can be separated.

Intransitive phrasal verbs and three-word phras-

al verbs cannot be separated.

The truck had *broken down* in Montreal. [*not* *The truck had broken in Montreal down.*]

His sister *took up with* a new boyfriend. [*not* *His sister took up a new boyfriend with.*]

And phrasal verbs in the passive voice are never separated.

The problem had been *worked out* on Friday. [*not* *The problem had been worked on Friday out.*]

The baseball game was *held up* by rain. [*not* *The baseball game was held by rain up.*]

PHRASES, CLAUSES, AND SENTENCES

The basic unit of English expression is the sentence. All sentences contain at least one clause, and phrases are elements of many clauses and sentences.

Phrases

Any group of words that expresses a single idea, functions as a single part of speech, and does not include both a subject and a predicate is a *phrase*.

A *noun phrase*, like a noun, refers to a person, animal, thing, place, quality, action, or idea. Noun phrases answer the question “What?” or “Who?” A *verb phrase* expresses an action, an occurrence, or a state of being. An *adverb phrase* usually modifies a verb and answers the question “When?” “Where?” “How?” “How much?” “How long?” or “How often?” An *adjective phrase* modifies nouns and pronouns and answers the question “What kind?” “How many?” or “Which?”

noun phrase He was crowned *king of France*.
A ton of work was waiting for her.

verb phrase Dinner *was being served*.
They *had taken off* their shoes.

adverb phrase It must be done *with care*.
Last year she married again.

adjective phrase The article was *rather dull*.
They played works *by Beethoven*.

While a noun phrase will always have a noun in it, and a verb phrase will always have a verb in it, adverb and adjective phrases sometimes do not have adverbs or adjectives in them. The adverb phrase “with care” in the sentence above is made up of the preposition *with* and the noun *care*. However, since “with care” answers the question “How?” the phrase is an adverb phrase.

Many adverb and adjective phrases begin with

either a preposition or a participle. Such phrases are known as *prepositional phrases* and *participial phrases*. Notice that these terms describe the phrase’s first word rather than its function.

Prepositional Phrases

A prepositional phrase is a preposition followed by an object. The object is always a noun or a noun-equivalent: a noun phrase, a pronoun, a gerund, or even a noun clause. A prepositional phrase normally follows the word it modifies.

the causes *of the war*
a gift *to his mother’s favorite charity*
nobody *except him*
a good day *for flying*
too late *for the concert we wanted to hear*

A prepositional phrase that acts like an adverb answers the question “When?” “Where?” “How?” “How much?” “How long?” or “How often?”

I sleep late *on Saturdays*.
There’s a woman *at the front door*.
They did it *for the money*.
You can eat it *with your hands*.

A prepositional phrase that acts like an adjective describes a noun.

We bought two pounds *of cherries*.
Birds *with colorful feathers* are common here.
The ice *in Antarctica* is more than a mile deep.

Participial Phrases

A participial phrase is a phrase that begins with a participle (a verb form that usually ends in *-ed* or *-ing*) and functions like an adjective.

They were sitting in a wagon *pulled by horses*.
He watched two hawks *flying in opposite directions*.

A woman *believed to be a spy* has just left the building.

Participial phrases, like prepositional phrases, usually, but not always, follow the words they modify.

The guy *sitting by the window* is her boyfriend.

The officer *injured in the accident* was hospitalized.

Lacking a car, she takes the bus to work.

Notice that most participial phrases could instead be included in a subordinate clause beginning with *who*, *which*, or *that*.

The officer *who was injured in the accident* was hospitalized.

A participial phrase may often be moved within a sentence.

The captain, *seeking to beat the speed record*, had raced through the strait.

Seeking to beat the speed record, the captain had raced through the strait.

Clauses and Sentences

A **clause** is a group of words that contains a subject and verb. A **main** (or **independent**) **clause** is part of a larger sentence but could be used by itself as a complete sentence. A **subordinate** (or **dependent**) **clause** cannot form a complete sentence by itself.

A **sentence** expresses a statement, question, command, or wish. It begins with a capital letter and ends with a period, question mark, or exclamation point. Every sentence has two basic parts: a **subject**, which is a noun, a noun phrase, or a pronoun that performs the action of the verb; and a **predicate**, which contains a verb and usually other words as well and expresses what is said about the subject. (In **imperative** sentences, the subject *you* is usually absent but understood; see p. 1942.) The subject normally comes before the predicate, but in questions the verb is normally separate from the rest of the predicate and comes before the subject. A prepositional phrase may sometimes appear before the verb in the normal place of the subject.

She took some coins out of her purse.

Was she the only student there?

Shut up or I'll smack you!

I wish it would stop raining.

She likes hip-hop, he likes reggae, and I like blues.

He knew that the police were looking for him.

In the doorway stood a tall, elegantly dressed man.

A sentence must contain a main clause. Sentences that contain a single clause are called **simple sentences** (see the first, second, and seventh sentences above). Sentences that contain two or more main clauses are called **compound sentences** (see the third and fifth sentences). Sentences that contain a subordinate clause are called **complex sentences** (see the fourth and sixth sentence).

Compound Sentences

In a compound sentence, the main clauses are normally joined with a coordinating conjunction (*and*, *or*, *but*) or a semicolon. (For this reason these clauses are sometimes referred to as **coordinate clauses**.) A comma usually (but not always) precedes the conjunction.

The Senate may vote today, or it may wait till next week.

The rain stopped and the children went back outside.

She liked Toyotas, but he preferred Hondas.

This one is named Lulu; that one is Bobo.

Complex Sentences

A sentence in which the main clause has one or more subordinate clauses is a **complex sentence**. A main clause may be joined to a subordinate clause in different ways.

A subordinate clause may begin with a **subordinating conjunction**. The most common subordinating conjunctions (some of which are also used as adverbs or prepositions) include:

after	since	where
although	so	whether
because	that	while
before	though	why
how	unless	
if	when	

Show me *how you do that*.

I used to ski *when I lived in Switzerland*.

She doesn't remember *where she left the keys*.

Although it was late, he didn't feel tired.

Stay here *while I go and get some food*.

You'll be assigned to a team *since you didn't choose one*.

Unlike the other subordinating conjunctions, *that* can often be omitted.

The manufacturers claim (*that*) the drug works.

For many more examples, see the individual dictionary entries.

A subordinate clause may also begin with a **relative pronoun**. A relative pronoun refers to a noun or noun phrase that was mentioned earlier. The most important relative pronouns are *that*, *which*, *who*, *whom*, and *whose*. (Others include *whatever*, *whoever*, *whomever*, and *whichever*.)

Is there a camera *that can take pictures under water*?

They're all good; the question is *which is the best*.

The professor *who won the award* is retiring.

The clerk *whom you spoke to* no longer works here.

Do you know *whose that is*?

Who is more common than *whom* (its object form) at the beginning of a subordinate clause.

Is that the clerk *who [=whom] you spoke to*?

The relative pronouns *whose* and *which* may also act as **relative adjectives**, which are simply adjectives that introduce a subordinate clause.

That's the guy *whose father is an ambassador*.

It wasn't obvious *which road led back to the town*.

Another way to begin a subordinate clause is with a **relative adverb** (an adverb that introduces a subordinate clause): *where*, *when*, or *why*.

They're particularly interested in Angola, *where there are large oil deposits*.

In May, *when the lilacs bloom*, the fragrance is heavenly.

No one really knew *why the marriage had failed*.

Subordinate clauses that modify nouns or verbs (rather than function as objects) may be divided into two categories: **restrictive clauses** and **nonrestrictive clauses**. A restrictive clause identifies the noun or verb that precedes it and is needed to understand which person or thing is meant.

I preferred the soprano *who sang last year*.

The only thing *that keeps them together* is their son.

A nonrestrictive clause adds information about something but is not needed to understand which person or thing is meant:

She had written two books, *which had been fairly successful*.

My uncle, *who I haven't seen in years*, works for the government.

Nonrestrictive clauses are separated from the rest of the sentence by one or two commas; restrictive clauses are not separated from the rest of the sentence by commas.

Which may refer to an entire main clause.

He moved out of the apartment the next day, *which was fine with her*.

She ignored my advice, *which surprised me*.

When a restrictive clause begins with a relative pronoun or relative adverb, the pronoun or adverb can often be omitted.

The reason (*that*) *he gave* wasn't convincing.

That was the year (*when*) *I went to Romania*.

She just needs a place (*where*) *she can study*.

This is never possible in nonrestrictive clauses, or in clauses where the pronoun is the subject.

He had a magazine, *which he had finished reading*. [not *He had a magazine, he had finished reading.*]

They're the relatives *who raised me*. [not *They're the relatives raised me.*]

A special kind of restrictive clause, known as an **infinitive clause**, begins with a *to* infinitive (the basic form of a verb preceded by *to*).

She liked *to hike in the Scottish Highlands*.

It was always fun *to work on puzzles together*.

For more examples, see Infinitives, p. 1940.

Finally, clauses that begin with *if* are known as **conditional clauses**.

If the day is sunny, the ceremony will be held outdoors.

See Conditional Sentences, p. 1950.

Questions

As stated above, a sentence expresses a statement, wish, command, or question. Sentences that express statements or wishes are **declarative**; sentences that express commands are **imperative**; and sentences that express questions are **interrogative**. Since questions have a unique form, we will discuss them explicitly here.

Unlike declarative and imperative sentences, which end in either a period or exclamation point, a question ends with a question mark (?).

Questions are used to ask something. Many questions can be answered with either "yes" or "no"; these are called **yes/no questions**. All yes/no questions begin with an auxiliary verb or with a form of *be*.

Should that door be open? (No, it shouldn't.)

Did the prime minister speak yesterday? (Yes, she did.)

Has he talked to his doctor? (No, he hasn't.)

May I call you sometime? (Yes, you may.)

Was there enough food? (No, there wasn't.)

Notice that the answers to yes/no questions (such as those in parentheses above) often repeat the auxiliary verb but rarely repeat the main verb except when it is *be*.

Yes/no questions normally look like ordinary declarative sentences with the words in a different order.

(It's late.) Is it late?

(The streets were empty.) Were the streets empty?

(Their prices are high.) Are their prices high?

If the declarative sentence has only one verb and it is not a form of *be*, the question must start with a form of *do* or, in the future tense, *will*: that is, *did* (or *didn't*) for the past tense, *does* or *do* (or *doesn't* or *don't*) for the present tense, and *will* (or *won't*) for the future tense. Since *do* and *will* express the tense, the main verb appears as an infinitive.

(He finally got married.) *Did* he finally get married?

(She knows him well.) *Does* she know him well?

(They fly north in April.) *Do* they fly north in April?

(I will leave tomorrow.) *Will* you leave tomorrow?

If the declarative sentence includes an auxiliary verb (*be*, *have*, *do*, or a modal verb), that verb is usually moved to the beginning.

(The Yankees are losing.) *Are* the Yankees losing?

(Everyone has gone.) *Has* everyone gone?

(It actually did happen.) *Did* it actually happen?

(He'll be back soon.) *Will* he be back soon?

(That would work better.) *Would* that work better?

(The boys can have those.) *Can* the boys have those?

Must is often replaced by a form of *do* followed by *have to*.

(Every student must take a few science classes.) *Does* every student *have to* take a few science classes?

A question in which *have* or *do* is an independent verb (rather than an auxiliary verb) begins with an auxiliary verb.

(They usually have trouble at customs.) *Do* they usually *have* trouble at customs?

(The hurricane did a lot of damage.) *Did* the hurricane *do* a lot of damage?

Questions that cannot be answered with "yes" or "no" usually begin with an interrogative adjec-

tive, adverb, or pronoun: *when*, *what*, *where*, *who*, *whom*, *whose*, *why*, *which*, or *how*. Such questions do not simply reorder the words of a declarative sentence.

(I liked that one best.) Which one did you like best?

(She wants the blue one.) Which one does she want?

(I'll park the car here.) Where will you park the car?

(Fifteen were missing.) How many were missing?

(They've visited twice.) How often have they visited?

(You should go in an hour.) When should I go?

As shown in these sentences, an auxiliary verb still normally precedes the subject in such questions. But if an interrogative pronoun or adjective (usually *who*, *what*, *which*, or *whose*) refers to the subject of the sentence, no auxiliary verb is needed.

Who wants the last beer?

Which was the right answer?

Which cat is sick?

What trail leads down the mountain?

Whose team finally won?

Yes/no questions are often worded negatively (see Negation, p. 1948). Negative questions do not mean that the speaker thinks the answer is "no"; in fact, people usually ask negative questions when they think the answer will be "yes." In negative questions, not follows the auxiliary verb; it is almost always contracted to *-n't*.

Won't it be difficult? (Yes, it probably will.)

Weren't the potatoes good? (Yes, they were delicious.)

Wouldn't they prefer to see a movie? (Yes, they probably would.)

Didn't your friends go with you? (Yes, two of them did.)

A positively worded question usually indicates that the speaker truly has no idea what the answer is.

Will you be at the party? (Yes, I'm planning to go. or No, I have other plans.)

In conversation and informal messages, declarative sentences often end with a short question called a *tag question*.

We don't have time, do we? [=Do we have time?]

If the main clause is negative, the tag question must be positive. If the main clause is positive, the tag question must be negative. A noun subject in the main clause is replaced by a pronoun in the

tag question. If the sentence begins with *there* or *it*, *there* or *it* is repeated in the tag question. The verb in the tag question is always an auxiliary verb. If there is an auxiliary verb in the main clause, it is repeated in the tag question; if the main clause has no auxiliary verb, the tag question uses a form of *do*.

John wouldn't mind, would he? [=Would John mind?]

They'll all be there, won't they? [=Won't they all be there?]

There isn't any tea, is there? [=Is there any tea?]

It was cold, wasn't it? [=Wasn't it cold?]

Elena retired last year, didn't she? [=Didn't Elena retire last year?]

You work in Singapore, don't you? [=Don't you work in Singapore?]

In conversation, a declarative sentence can be turned into a question by simply ending the sentence with rising intonation in the voice. In writing, this is shown by using a question mark rather than a period.

They're going to shut down the company?

OTHER GRAMMAR TOPICS

Possession

The normal way to show possession is to add -'s or -' to the end of the name or noun. A singular noun normally takes -'s. A plural noun that ends in an /s/ or /z/ sound takes simply -'. A noun with an irregular plural takes -'s.

the *cat's* tail

Marcos's teacher

the *Beatles'* second drummer

the *children's* cookies

A **possessive adjective** (see p. 1933) or **possessive pronoun** (p. 1928) can often be used instead of a name or noun.

Lisa took *her* grandmother to the fair.

Our car needs to be replaced.

The dog has lost *its* collar.

The last house on the street is *theirs*.

Yours is newer than *mine*.

Note that the possessive adjective *its* has no apostrophe. *It's* (with an apostrophe) is a contraction of "it is" ("It's getting late") or "it has" ("It's gotten late").

A less common and more formal way to show possession is with *of*. *Of* is normally used when a thing, rather than a person or animal, has possession.

the campus *of the university* = *the university's* campus

the role *of the government* = *the government's* role

Of is rarely used to show possession of something that can be touched or held.

Mrs. Klein's cat [not *the cat of Mrs. Klein*]

Apposition

When two nouns or noun phrases in the same sentence refer to the same thing, the two are said to be in **apposition** to one another.

Cairo, *Africa's largest city*, is the cultural center of the Arab world.

A fluent speaker of Finnish, Sirpa was very helpful with the tourists.

The choir performed "Elijah Rock," *a spiritual arranged by Moses Hogan*.

They interviewed *the novelist* J. K. Rowling.

Negation

A negative statement expresses denial or refusal. To **negate** a statement is to change its meaning so that it is negative; this process is called **negation**. A small group of words is used for negation, and all of them start with *n*-.

Not is the most common negating word. It is normally used with a verb as part of a contraction (*isn't*, *shouldn't*, etc.) in spoken English. *Not* can be used to negate nouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs.

He *isn't* a Catholic.

She's *not* going anywhere.

Those *aren't* blue.

They hoped it *wasn't* too long.

The other negating words are *no*, *none*, *nothing*, *nobody*, *no one*, *nowhere*, and *never*.

Nobody told me about it.

There'll be *nothing* left for us.

It *never* happened.

See the individual dictionary entries for many more examples of how these words are used.

Negating a sentence in the simple present or simple past tense requires a form of *do* with *not*.

- These colors *don't* match.
- The bus *didn't* arrive on time.

In sentences with modal verbs, *not* follows the modal verb immediately, often forming a contraction.

- It *can't* be true.
- The children *shouldn't* stay out too late.
- The train *won't* leave until 4:10.

The same is true for the other auxiliary verbs.

- They *aren't* coming this spring.
- She *hadn't* traveled in Africa since she was in college.
- He *doesn't* work there with us anymore.

Only one negative word is required to make a clause negative. Using two negative words in a clause produces an error called a **double negative**.

- I *don't* know anything about it. or I know *nothing* about it. [not *I don't know nothing about it.*]

However, a sentence with more than one clause can have more than one negation.

- I've *never* heard that, and I *don't* believe it.
- She *won't* tell us who *wasn't* there.

Three common adverbs—*hardly*, *barely*, and *scarcely*—may have the effect of negation; they should not be used with another negative word.

- I can *barely* hear you. [not *I can't barely hear you.*]
- There's *hardly* any time left. [not *There isn't hardly any time left.*]
- She had been gone *scarcely* five minutes. [not *She hadn't been gone scarcely five minutes.*]

Comparison

In grammar, comparison means stating that something has more or less of a quality or amount than something else has.

Comparisons of Quality

To compare a quality that is possessed by two nouns (or noun phrases or pronouns) or two verbs, we use the **comparative** form of an adjective or adverb, which is normally formed by adding *-er* to a one-syllable adjective or adverb and to many two-syllable adjectives and adverbs. If the word ends with a short vowel and a consonant and

is accented on the last syllable, the final consonant of the adjective or adverb is usually doubled. If the word ends in a silent *-e*, the *-e* is omitted. If it ends in *-y*, the *y* usually changes to *i*.

- smart (adj.) She's no *smarter* than me.
- fat (adj.) He's *fatter* than he used to be.
- late (adj.) It's *later* than I thought.
- early (adj. or adv) They took an *earlier* train.
I arrived *earlier* than they did.

For longer adjectives (including many two-syllable adjectives) and almost all adverbs, the comparative is formed by using *more* or *less* instead.

- patriotic (adj.) He's *more patriotic* than his brother.
- traditional (adj.) Their Easter service is *less traditional* than ours.
- readily (adv.) He responded *less readily* this time than before.
- harshly (adv.) The older kids were punished *more harshly*.

More and *less* are never used with an adjective or adverb with an added *-er* ending.

- This test was *easier* than the last one. [not *This test was more easier than the last one.*]

Notice that *than* always comes between the two items being compared. But if one item was mentioned previously, a *than* phrase may not be needed.

- They drank all the wine almost immediately; the liquor lasted longer.

When comparing three or more things, we use the **superlative** form. For a short adjective or adverb, the superlative is normally formed by adding *-est*. For longer words, we instead use *most* or *least*. *The* almost always precedes a superlative adjective and often precedes a superlative adverb.

- smart (adj.) This paper was written by *the smartest* student.
- neurotic (adj.) She's *the least neurotic* person in the world.
- early (adj. or adv.) They took *the earliest* train.
Who got up *(the) earliest*?
- readily (adv.) Oranges are *most readily* available in winter here.

Most and *least* are never used before an adjective or adverb with an *-est* ending.

- That was the *hardest* part of the exam. [not *That was the most hardest part of the exam.*]

The normal comparative and superlative forms for adjectives and adverbs are shown at their individual dictionary entries. The labels [*more* ~; *most* ~] are used for adjectives and adverbs that use

more and *most* as their comparative and superlative forms. The labels [*also more* ~; *most* ~] and [*or more* ~; *most* ~] are used for adjectives and adverbs that can be used with the normal comparative and superlative forms but that often or sometimes use *more* and *most* as their comparative and superlative forms instead.

A few common adjectives and adverbs have irregular comparative and superlative forms.

basic form	comparative	superlative
good (adj.)	better	best
well (adv.)	better	best
bad (adj. or adv.)	worse	worst
badly (adv.)	worse	worst
little (adj. or adv.)	less	least
much (adj. or adv.)	more	most
some (adj.)	more	most
many (adj.)	more	most
far (adj. or adv.)	further/ farther	furthest/ farthest

To say that two qualities are equal, we use *as . . . as* with the adjective or adverb (or the adjective or adverb phrase) between the two words.

- She's almost *as old as* her aunt.
- My pickup isn't *as easy to drive as* my car.
- They're not *as happy with it as* they used to be.

Comparisons of Quantity

To compare the amount or number of things, we use *more*, *most*, *less*, *least*, and other words to modify nouns (rather than adjectives or adverbs). For greater amounts or numbers, we use *more* and (*the*) *most*. For smaller amounts or numbers, we use *fewer* and (*the*) *fewest* for count nouns, and *less* and (*the*) *least* for noncount nouns.

- This box holds *more* discs than that one.
- Who owns *the most* land?
- There were ten *fewer* accidents this year.
- February has *the fewest* days.
- Kuwait has *less* oil than Iraq.
- He always tries to do *the least* work possible.

However, for numbers that are thought of as making up a single sum or a whole, it is normal to use *less* rather than *fewer*.

- She had *less* than \$30 in her purse.
- You can't join if you're *less* than 21 years old.

Because of this, even native English speakers often use *less/fewer* and *least/fewest* inconsistently.

More and *less* can also be used to compare amounts of an activity.

- She worries about it *more* than I do.
- Each year they travel *less* than the year before.

To say that two quantities are equal, we use *as many . . . as* or *as few . . . as* for count nouns, and *as much . . . as* or *as little . . . as* for noncount nouns.

- You don't have *as many cousins as* he does.
- I never made *as much money as* she made.

As much as and *as little as* (with no word in the middle) can also be used to compare quantities of an activity.

- He doesn't run *as much as* I do.

Conditional Sentences

An important type of *subordinate clause* (see p. 1945) begins with the conjunction *if*. *If* clauses are used to say that something is true or likely or valid only under certain conditions. They are also used for talking about things that failed to happen in the past and things that cannot be true. Since sentences with *if* clauses talk about situations that require certain conditions, they are called *conditional sentences*.

Conditional sentences may use different combinations of verb tenses. The verb form used in the *if* clause depends on whether the clause is talking about a condition in the past, the present, or the future, or about something that is always true. The verb form in the main clause depends on these same things, and may also depend on which verb form is used in the *if* clause.

The simplest conditional sentences are about the present or the future. They express a result that occurs, or will occur, when the condition in the *if* clause is true.

- If it rains today*, I'll cut the grass tomorrow.

Sentences of this type generally use the present tense in the *if* clause and the future tense (with either *will* or *going to*) in the main clause. *Unless* can be used instead of *If . . . not*.

- We are going to go tomorrow *if the weather is not bad*.
- We are going to go tomorrow *unless the weather is bad*.

See the entry for *unless* for more examples.

To speak of a condition that is not true, the *if* clause uses the past subjunctive, and the main clause uses *would*.

- If he *were* a better listener, he *would remember* what you said.
- I *would order* something if there *were* anything good on the menu.
- If you *respected* me, you'd *take off* that ridiculous hat.

To discuss something that failed to happen, or something that is believed to be impossible, the *if*

clause uses the past perfect tense, and the main clause uses a modal perfect (see p. 1939).

If it *had snowed* any more, we *couldn't have driven* home.

I *might have called* if I *had known* you were here.

If they *had had* more time, they *would have finished*.

To discuss a future possibility, an *if* clause may use *were to* with the infinitive.

If he *were to die*, who would inherit the house?

Reporting Speech and Writing

There are two ways to report what another person has said or written. One way, called **direct speech** or **quotation**, repeats the exact language, enclosed in quotation marks.

He added, "I really have to leave soon."

"It's an absolute disaster," she said, "the worst we've ever seen."

The hospital's report began: "The senator's condition has improved slightly overnight."

See also Quotation Marks, p. 1972.

The other way to report what another person has said or written, called **indirect speech**, puts the meaning of the person's words, rather than the precise words, into a subordinate clause.

("We have cows and a peach orchard.") She says (that) they have cows and a peach orchard. /She said (that) they had cows and a peach orchard.

As shown by the parentheses around it, the subordinating conjunction *that* often introduces indirect speech but is usually not required. (See Complex Sentences, p. 1945.) Notice that the original speech uses the present tense ("have"), but when the verb used to report the indirect speech is in the past tense, the tense of the indirect speech normally changes also.

The verb used to report indirect speech may be in the present tense when what is being reported was said recently or is from a piece of writing.

("I'm calling them weekly.") He *says* he *is* calling them weekly.

("Home prices have risen 6 percent since last year.") The report *says* (that) home prices have risen 6 percent since last year.

Notice that the verb in the indirect speech does not change.

More commonly, however, the verb used to report indirect speech is in the past tense and causes

the verb in the indirect speech to change. The list below shows how the original tense usually changes when it is reported with a verb in the past tense in the normal way.

original tense	after "said," "asked," etc.
present	present <i>or</i> past
present perfect	past perfect
present progressive	imperfect
future with <i>will</i>	<i>would</i> + infinitive
future with <i>be going to</i>	<i>was/were going to</i> + infinitive
past	past <i>or</i> past perfect
imperfect	imperfect <i>or</i> past perfect progressive
past perfect	(no change)

("She is doing very well.") The teacher *said* (that) she *is* doing very well. The teacher *said* (that) she *was* doing very well.

("We've tried everything.") They *said* (that) they *had tried* everything.

("When *are* you coming?") She *asked* when we *were coming*.

("We *will make* a large profit next year.") The company *said* (that) it *would make* a large profit next year.

("The boat is *going to leave* without us!") He *yelled* that the boat *was going to leave* without us.

("She *failed* her exams last month.") She *told* me (that) she *failed* her exams last month. She *told* me (that) she *had failed* her exams last month.

("He *was sleeping* when I called.") He *said* (that) he *was sleeping* when I called. He *said* (that) he *had been sleeping* when I called.

("They *had left* just a few minutes earlier.") Someone *said* (that) they *had left* just a few minutes earlier.

Notice that in indirect speech a period replaces any question mark or exclamation mark at the end.

Reporting a spoken or written sentence that includes a modal verb requires the following changes.

original	after "said," "asked," etc.
can	could
may	might <i>or</i> could
must	had to
shall	would
will	would

("Charles *must* go back immediately.") He *said* that Charles *had to* go back immediately.

("The situation *won't* be getting better soon.") She wrote that the situation *wouldn't* be getting better soon.

However, if the person being quoted spoke recently, or if a document is being quoted, "says," "asks," etc., may be used, in which case the present tense can also be used in the indirect speech.

He *says* that Charles *must* go back immediately.

She *writes* that the situation *won't* be getting better soon.

The other modal verbs (*ought*, *could*, *might*, *should*, and *would*) and the near-modal verb *have to* usually employ the same verb for the past tense.

("I *could* take the job in Uruguay instead.") He said he *could* take the job in Uruguay instead.

("We *have to* make a decision this year.") They told me that they *had to* make a decision this year.

There are three cases in which the tense in indirect speech often does not change: (1) when the speech reported is something that is true all the time, (2) when the speech is reported immediately and concerns something not yet in the past, and (3) when the speech uses the future to make a prediction.

("Global warming *affects* everyone.") He agreed that global warming *affects* everyone.

("The train *is* about to depart.") She just told me the train *is* about to depart.

("She'll *be* very successful in life.") He said she'll *be* very successful in life.

Questions in indirect speech are treated in two different ways. For a yes/no question (see p. 1946), the reporting clause begins with *if* or *whether* (these two words have the same meaning in such sentences) and the verb appears in regular sentence order.

("Do you *eat* meat?") She asked *if* I *eat/ate* meat.

("Can you stay any longer?") He asked *whether* I *could* stay any longer.

If the question begins with "when," "which," "why," "who," "whose," "what," "where," or "how," the reported question uses the same word but puts the verb after the subject.

("Where *is* my coat?") She asked *where* her coat *was*.

("How long *have* you *lived* here?") He asked me *how* long I *had lived* here.

A command, instruction, or invitation is reported as an infinitive with *to*.

("Get out.") He told us *to get out*.

("Add a cup of chopped dates.") The instructions said *to add* a cup of chopped dates.

Omitted Words

English sentences usually omit a word when the same word is used either earlier or later in the sentence. The omitted word may be a noun, pronoun, verb, adjective (including an article), adverb, preposition, or conjunction. The word normally would have followed *and*, *or*, or *but*. (When a noun is omitted, it often would have preceded the conjunction.)

No one could lift the largest (stones) and heaviest stones.

He closed the window and (he) turned out the light.

In the evening she liked to read or (liked to) play the piano.

A horse or (a) cow had knocked down the gate.

The speech was very long and (very) boring.

Most of the oil came from Nigeria or (from) Angola.

They were offered a choice: pasta, (or) potatoes, or rice.

A word should only be omitted when the words that are being linked represent the same part of speech (*largest/heaviest*, *closed/turned out*, *horse/cow*, etc.).

Irregular Verbs

The following list shows the infinitive, past-tense, and past-participle forms for the irregular verbs in this dictionary. All verbs with the same final element are grouped together; thus, *outdo*, *overdo*, *redo*, and *undo* all appear immediately after *do* rather than in alphabetical order.

A regular English verb forms its past tense and past participle by adding *-ed* to its infinitive: for example, *trust* (“We trust her”), *trusted* (“In those days we trusted her”), *trusted* (“We have always trusted her”). A verb is considered regular if, when the *-ed* is added,

- the infinitive’s final consonant is doubled (*stop*, *stopped*, *stopped*)
- its final silent *-e* is dropped (*die*, *died*, *died*)
- its final *-y* changes to *-i-* (*hurry*, *hurried*, *hurried*)
- its final *-c* changes to *-ck-* (*panic*, *panicked*, *panicked*)

A verb is considered irregular if

- either the past tense or the past participle lacks *-ed* (*swim*, *swam*, *swum*; *mean*, *meant*, *meant*)
- either the past tense or the past participle has a variant form that lacks *-ed* (*burn*, *burned* or *burnt*, *burned* or *burnt*)

INFINITIVE	PAST	PAST PARTICIPLE	INFINITIVE	PAST	PAST PARTICIPLE
be	was, were	been	bust	busted <i>also Brit</i>	busted <i>also Brit</i>
bear	bore	borne		bust	bust
*forbear	forbore	forborne	buy	bought	bought
beat	beat	beaten <i>or chiefly US</i> beat	cast	cast	cast
			*broadcast	broadcast	broadcast
*browbeat	browbeat	browbeaten	*forecast	forecast <i>also</i>	forecast <i>also</i>
begin	began	begun		forecasted	forecasted
bend	bent	bent	*miscast	miscast	miscast
*unbend	unbent	unbent	*recast	recast	recast
beseech	besought <i>or</i> beseeched	besought <i>or</i> beseeched	*telecast	telecast	telecast
bet	bet <i>also</i> betted	bet <i>also</i> betted	*typecast	typecast	typecast
bid (to express)	bade <i>or</i> bid	bidden <i>or</i> bid	catch	caught	caught
*forbid	forbade <i>or</i> forbad	forbidden	cc	cc'd	cc'd
			choose	chose	chosen
bid (to offer)	bid	bid	cleave (to adhere)	cleaved <i>or</i> clove	cleaved
*outbid	outbid	outbid	cleave (to split)	cleaved <i>also</i> cleft <i>or</i> clove	cleaved <i>also</i> cleft <i>or</i> cloven
bind	bound	bound	cling	clung	clung
*unbind	unbound	unbound	clothe	clothed <i>also</i> clad	clothed <i>also</i> clad
bite	bit	bitten			
bleed	bled	bled	come	came	come
blow	blew	blown	*become	became	become
break	broke	broken	*overcome	overcame	overcome
*housebreak	housebroke	housebroken	cost	cost	cost
breed	bred	bred	creep	crept	crept
*crossbreed	crossbred	crossbred	cut	cut	cut
*interbreed	interbred	interbred	*undercut	undercut	undercut
bring	brought	brought	deal	dealt	dealt
build	built	built	dig	dug	dug
*rebuild	rebuilt	rebuilt	dive	dived <i>or chiefly US</i> dove	dived <i>or chiefly US</i> dove
burn	burned <i>or</i> burnt	burned <i>or</i> burnt	do	did	done
			*outdo	outdid	outdone
*sunburn	sunburned <i>or</i> sunburnt	sunburned <i>or</i> sunburnt	*overdo	overdid	overdone
burst	burst <i>also</i> bursted	burst <i>also</i> bursted	*redo	redid	redone

INFINITIVE	PAST	PAST PARTICIPLE	INFINITIVE	PAST	PAST PARTICIPLE
*undo	undid	undone	*behold	beheld	beheld
draw	drew	drawn	*uphold	upheld	upheld
*overdraw	overdrew	overdrawn	*withhold	withheld	withheld
*redraw	redrew	redrawn	hurt	hurt	hurt
*withdraw	withdrew	withdrawn	keep	kept	kept
dream	dreamed <i>or</i> dreamt	dreamed <i>or</i> dreamt	kneel	knelt <i>also</i> <i>chiefly US</i> kneeled	knelt <i>also chiefly</i> <i>US</i> kneeled
drink	drank	drunk	knit	knit <i>or</i> knitted	knit <i>or</i> knitted
drive	drove	driven	know	knew	known
*test-drive	test-drove	test-driven	lay	laid	laid
dwell	dwelled <i>or</i> dwelt	dwelled <i>or</i> dwelt	*inlay	inlaid	inlaid
eat	ate	eaten	*mislay	mislaid	mislaid
*overeat	overate	overeaten	*overlay	overlaid	overlaid
fall	fell	fallen	*underlay	underlaid	underlaid
*befall	befell	befallen	*waylay	waylaid	waylaid
feed	fed	fed	lead	led	led
*bottle-feed	bottle-fed	bottle-fed	*mislead	misled	misled
*force-feed	force-fed	force-fed	lean	leaned <i>or Brit</i> leant	leaned <i>or Brit</i> leant
*overfeed	overfed	overfed	leap	leapt <i>or</i> leaped	leapt <i>or</i> leaped
*spoon-feed	spoon-fed	spoon-fed	learn	learned <i>also</i> <i>chiefly Brit</i> learnt	learned <i>also chiefly</i> <i>Brit</i> learnt
feel	felt	felt	leave	left	left
fight	fought	fought	lend	lent	lent
find	found	found	let	let	let
fit (to be right)	fitted <i>or chiefly</i> <i>US</i> fit	fitted <i>or chiefly</i> <i>US</i> fit	*sublet	sublet	sublet
flee	fled	fled	lie (to recline)	lay	lain
fling	flung	flung	*overlie	overlay	overlain
fly	flew	flown	*underlie	underlay	underlain
*overfly	overflow	overflown	light	lighted <i>or</i> lit	lighted <i>or</i> lit
forsake	forsook	forsaken	*spotlight	spotlighted <i>or</i> spotlit	spotlighted <i>or</i> spotlit
freeze	froze	frozen	lose	lost	lost
*unfreeze	unfroze	unfrozen	make	made	made
get	got	got <i>or US</i> gotten	*remake	remade	remade
*beget	begot <i>also</i> begat	begotten <i>or</i> begot	mean	meant	meant
*forget	forgot	forgotten <i>or</i> forgot	meet	met	met
gild	gilded <i>or</i> gilt	gilded <i>or</i> gilt	mow	mowed	mowed <i>or</i> mown
gird	girded <i>also</i> girt	girded <i>also</i> girt	offset	offset	offset
give	gave	given	pay	paid	paid
*forgive	forgave	forgiven	*overpay	overpaid	overpaid
go	went	gone	*prepay	prepaid	prepaid
*forgo	forwent	forgone	*repay	repaid	repaid
*undergo	underwent	undergone	*underpay	underpaid	underpaid
grind	ground	ground	plead	pleaded <i>or</i> pled	pleaded <i>or</i> pled
grow	grew	grown	prove	proved	proved <i>or chiefly</i> <i>US</i> proven
*outgrow	outgrew	outgrown	*disprove	disproved <i>or</i> <i>chiefly US</i> disproven	disproved <i>or chiefly</i> <i>US</i> disproven
*overgrow	overgrew	overgrown	put	put	put
hang (to suspend)	hung <i>or</i> hanged	hung <i>or</i> hanged	*input	inputted <i>or</i> input	inputted <i>or</i> input
*overhang	overhung	overhung	*output	output	output
have	had	had	quit	quit <i>also</i> quitted	quit <i>also</i> quitted
hear	heard	heard	read	read	read
*mishear	misheard	misheard	*lip-read	lip-read	lip-read
*overhear	overheard	overheard	*misread	misread	misread
heave	heaved <i>also</i> hove	heaved <i>also</i> hove	*proofread	proofread	proofread
hew	hewed	hewed <i>or</i> hewn	*reread	reread	reread
hide	hid	hidden <i>or</i> hid			
hit	hit	hit			
*switch-hit	switch-hit	switch-hit			
hold	held	held			

INFINITIVE	PAST	PAST PARTICIPLE	INFINITIVE	PAST	PAST PARTICIPLE
*sight-read	sight-read	sight-read	slit	slit	slit
rend	rent <i>also US</i> rended	rent <i>also US</i> rended	smell	smelled <i>or Brit</i> smelt	smelled <i>or Brit</i> smelt
rid	rid <i>also</i> rided	rid <i>also</i> rided	smite	smote	smitten
ride	rode	ridden	sneak	sneaked <i>or chiefly US</i> snuck	sneaked <i>or chiefly US</i> snuck
*override	overrode	overridden	sow	sowed	sown <i>or</i> sowed
ring (to sound)	rang	rung	speak	spoke	spoken
rise	rose	risen	*bespeak	bespoke	bespoken
*arise	arose	arisen	speed	sped <i>or</i> speeded	sped <i>or</i> speeded
run	ran	run	spell	spelled <i>or chiefly Brit</i> spelt	spelled <i>or chiefly Brit</i> spelt
*outrun	outran	outrun	*misspell	misspelled <i>or chiefly Brit</i> misspelt	misspelled <i>or chiefly Brit</i> misspelt
*overrun	overran	overrun	spend	spent	spent
*rerun	reran	rerun	*misspend	misspent	misspent
saw	sawed	sawed <i>or Brit</i> sawn	*outspend	outspent	outspent
say	said	said	*overspend	overspent	overspent
see	saw	seen	spill	chiefly US spilled <i>or chiefly Brit</i> spilt	chiefly US spilled <i>or chiefly Brit</i> spilt
*foresee	foresaw	foreseen	spin	spun	spun
*oversee	oversaw	overseen	spit (to eject saliva)	spat <i>or chiefly US</i> spit	spat <i>or chiefly US</i> spit
seek	sought	sought	split	split	split
sell	sold	sold	spoil	spoiled <i>or chiefly Brit</i> spoil	spoiled <i>or chiefly Brit</i> spoil
*outsell	outsold	outsold	spread	spread	spread
*oversell	oversold	oversold	spring	sprang <i>or</i> sprung	sprung
*resell	resold	resold	stand	stood	stood
*undersell	undersold	undersold	*misunderstand	misunderstood	misunderstood
send	sent	sent	*understand	understood	understood
set	set	set	*withstand	withstood	withstood
*beset	beset	beset	stave	staved <i>also</i> stove	staved <i>also</i> stove
*inset	inset	inset	steal	stole	stolen
*reset	reset	reset	stick	stuck	stuck
*upset	upset	upset	sting	stung	stung
sew	sewed	sewn <i>or</i> sewed	stink	stank <i>or</i> stunk	stunk
shake	shook	shaken	strew	strewed	strewed <i>or</i> strewn
shave	shaved	shaved <i>or</i> shaven	*bestrew	bestrewed	bestrewed <i>or</i> bestrewed
shear	sheared	sheared <i>or</i> shorn	stride	strode	stridden
shed	shed	shed	*bestride	bestrode	bestriden
shine	shone <i>or chiefly US</i> shined	shone <i>or chiefly US</i> shined	strike	struck	struck <i>also</i> stricken
*outshine	outshone <i>or</i> outshined	outshone <i>or</i> outshined	string	strung	strung
shit	shit <i>or</i> shat	shit <i>or</i> shat	*hamstring	hamstrung	hamstrung
shoe	shod <i>also chiefly US</i> shoed	shod <i>also chiefly US</i> shoed	strive	strove <i>also</i> strived	striven <i>or</i> strived
shoot	shot	shot	swear	swore	sworn
*overshoot	overshot	overshot	*forswear	forsook	forsook
show	showed	shown <i>or</i> showed	sweat	sweat <i>or</i> sweated	sweat <i>or</i> sweated
shrink	shrank <i>or</i> shrunk	shrank <i>or</i> shrunk	sweep	swept	swept
shut	shut	shut	swell	swelled	swelled <i>or</i> swollen
sing	sang <i>or</i> sung	sung	swim	swam	swum
sink	sank <i>or</i> sunk	sunk			
sit	sat	sat			
*babysit	babysat	babysat			
*resit	resat	resat			
slay	slew <i>also</i> slayed	slain			
sleep	slept	slept			
*oversleep	overslept	overslept			
slide	slid	slid			
*backslide	backslid	backslid			
sling	slung	slung			
slink	slunk <i>also US</i> slinked	slunk <i>also US</i> slinked			

INFINITIVE	PAST	PAST PARTICIPLE	INFINITIVE	PAST	PAST PARTICIPLE
swing	swung	swung	wake	woke <i>also</i>	woken <i>or</i> waked
take	took	taken		waked	<i>also</i> woke
*mistake	mistook	mistaken	*awake	awoke	awoken
*overtake	overtook	overtaken	wear	wore	worn
*partake	partook	partaken	weave	wove <i>or</i> weaved	woven <i>or</i> weaved
*retake	retook	retaken	*interweave	interwove	interwoven
*undertake	undertook	undertaken	wed	wedded <i>also</i>	wedded <i>also</i> wed
teach	taught	taught		wed	
tear (to rip)	tore	torn	weep	wept	wept
tell	told	told	wet	wet <i>or</i> wetted	wet <i>or</i> wetted
*foretell	foretold	foretold	win	won	won
*retell	retold	retold	wind (to encircle)	wound	wound
think	thought	thought			
*rethink	rethought	rethought	*rewind	rewound	rewound
thrive	thrived <i>or</i> <i>old-fashioned</i> throve	thrived <i>also</i> <i>old-fashioned</i> thriven	*unwind	unwound	unwound
			wring	wrung	wrung
throw	threw	thrown	write	wrote	written
*overthrow	overthrew	overthrown	*ghostwrite	ghostwrote	ghostwritten
thrust	thrust	thrust	*overwrite	overwrote	overwritten
tread	trod <i>also</i> treaded	trodden <i>or</i> trod	*rewrite	rewrote	rewritten
			*underwrite	underwrote	underwritten

Contractions

English-speakers very often shorten (or *contract*) nine common words in speech. Eight are verbs: *have*, *has*, *had*, *is*, *am*, *are*, *will*, and *would*. One is an adverb: *not*. These words are also often shortened in informal writing. The shortened form of the word is attached to the word that comes before it; in writing, an apostrophe (') takes the place of the omitted letters.

The table below shows how the eight verbs are contracted when they follow a personal pronoun.

I have	I've	you have	you've	she has	she's	they have	they've
I had	I'd	you had	you'd	he had	he'd	we had	we'd
I am	I'm	you are	you're	it is	it's	we are	we're
I will	I'll	you will	you'll	he will	he'll	they will	they'll
I would	I'd	you would	you'd	she would	she'd	we would	we'd
I would have	I'd have; I would've	you would have	you'd have; you would've	it would have	it would've; it'd have	they would have	they'd have; they would've

Note that *-s* can stand for either *is* or *has*. (It can also form the possessive case, as in “Sarah’s dog.”) The contracted form *-d* can stand for either *had* or *would*. In questions, *-d* sometimes stands for *did* (“Where’d he go?” “Why’d you do it?”).

Contractions are commonly formed with other pronouns as well: “Who’s that?” “What’s happening?” “Someone’s coming,” “Who’d have guessed it?” “That’ll be all,” “This’ll work.” They are also often formed with nouns: “Michael’s here,” “The coffee’s hot,” “Time’s passing,” etc. And they are often used with *here* and *there*: “Here’s the book,” “There’d be plenty of food.”

Contractions are often formed by adding *-ve* to the modal verbs *would*, *could*, *should*, and *might*: “Argentina could’ve won,” “Those should’ve been better,” “I might’ve known. ”

The adverb *not* can be shortened to *-n’t* and attached to the following verbs:

are	aren’t	has	hasn’t	ought	oughtn’t
can	can’t	have	haven’t	should	shouldn’t
could	couldn’t	is	isn’t	was	wasn’t
did	didn’t	might	mightn’t	were	weren’t
do	don’t	must	mustn’t	will	won’t
does	doesn’t	need	needn’t	would	wouldn’t
had	hadn’t				

Note that *will/won’t* is the only irregular example.

The contraction *let’s* (*let us*) is common even in formal writing. *Ain’t* (*am not*, *are not*, *is not*, *have not*, *has not*) is common in very informal speech but never used in formal writing. *Y’all* (*you all*) is common in speech in the American South.

In American writing that is intended to represent very informal speech, the final *-g* in words ending in *-ing* may be replaced with an apostrophe: *seein’*, *hopin’*, *movin’*, etc. Other shortenings of single words include *’em* (*them*) and *’n’* (*and*).

Writing that imitates very informal speech may include words that represent combinations of two words without an apostrophe, including:

betcha (bet you)	gotcha (got you)	sorta (sort of)
coulda (could have)	gotta (got to)	wanna (want to)
dunno (don’t know)	kinda (kind of)	whatcha (what are you, what do you, what have you)
gimme (give me)	lemme (let me)	woulda (would have)
gonna (going to)	shoulda (should have)	

Prefixes and Suffixes

Learning the common English prefixes and suffixes can help you to better understand and remember the meaning of many English words. For other common English word parts, see English Word Roots, page 1960.

PREFIXES

PREFIX	MEANING	EXAMPLES	PREFIX	MEANING	EXAMPLES
a-	<i>on, in; in (such a) state or manner</i>	abed, afire, aloud	mis-	<i>bad, wrongly</i>	mistake, mislead
a-, an-	<i>not; without</i>	asexual	neo-	<i>new</i>	neoclassical, neo-Nazi
ante-	<i>before</i>	antedate, anteroom	non-	<i>not</i>	nonalcoholic, nontoxic
anti-	<i>against, opposite</i>	antidote, anticlimax	out-	<i>more than</i>	outgrow, outnumber
arch-	<i>chief, extreme</i>	archbishop, archenemy	over-	<i>go beyond; too much, very</i>	overachieve, overambitious
be-	<i>cause to be; treat as; about; thoroughly</i>	befoul, befriend, bemoan, bejeweled, beloved	para-	<i>assisting; resembling; beyond</i>	paralegal, paramilitary, paranormal
bi-	<i>two; every other; twice a</i>	bicycle, bipartisan, biweekly, biannual	post-	<i>after, later</i>	postdate, postpone
co-	<i>with, together</i>	coexist, coauthor	pre-	<i>before</i>	prehistoric, premature
counter-	<i>opposite, against</i>	counterclockwise, counteract	pro-	<i>favoring, supporting</i>	pro-American
de-	<i>do the opposite of; remove from; reduce</i>	deactivate, defrost, devalue	re-	<i>again, back</i>	retell, recall
dis-	<i>exclude, not</i>	disbar, disagreeable	retro-	<i>back, behind, backward</i>	retroactive, retrofit
em-, en-	<i>put into or onto; cause to be or have; thoroughly</i>	endanger, empower, enslave, entangle	semi-	<i>twice a; half; partly, partial</i>	semiannual, semicircle, semiconsciousness
ex-	<i>former</i>	ex-husband, ex-president	sub-	<i>under; division</i>	subsoil, substandard, subtopic
extra-	<i>outside, beyond</i>	extracurricular, extraterrestrial	super-	<i>more than</i>	superhighway, superhuman
hyper-	<i>very, too much</i>	hypercritical, hyperactive, hypertension	trans-	<i>through, across, beyond</i>	transaction, transparent, transport
hypo-	<i>under, down, below normal</i>	hypothermia, hypoallergenic	tri-	<i>three</i>	triangle, tricycle
in-	<i>not</i>	incapable, inconsistent	ultra-	<i>beyond, extremely</i>	ultrabright, ultramodern
inter-	<i>between, among</i>	intermarry, international	un-	<i>not; contrary to; reverse; remove</i>	unable, unethical, unfold, untie
intra-	<i>within, inward</i>	intracellular, intravenous	under-	<i>below; too low or little</i>	underlying, underpaid
meta-	<i>change; beyond</i>	metamorphosis, metaphysics	uni-	<i>one, single</i>	unilateral

SUFFIXES

SUFFIX	MEANING	EXAMPLES	SUFFIX	MEANING	EXAMPLES
-ability, -ibility	<i>capacity, fitness</i>	adaptability, compatibility	-ion	<i>act or process; state or condition</i>	ignition; perfection
-able, -ible	<i>tending to, fit for</i>	agreeable, collectible	-ish	<i>almost, approximately</i>	greenish
-age	<i>action; condition; place of</i>	breakage, bondage, orphanage	-ism	<i>practice, doctrine</i>	criticism, egotism
-al	<i>relating to; action</i>	fictional, rehearsal	-ist	<i>one who is; relating to</i>	bicyclist, hairstylist, elitist
-ance	<i>action or process</i>	performance, acceptance	-istic, -istical	<i>relating to, characterized by</i>	altruistic, egotistical
-ancy	<i>quality or state</i>	infancy, pregnancy	-ite	<i>one who is from; one who supports</i>	suburbanite, Reaganite
-ant	<i>one that does; doing or acting</i>	assistant, coolant, hesitant	-itis	<i>disease, inflammation</i>	arthritis, bronchitis
-ar, -ary	<i>of, relating to; one that relates to</i>	molecular, budgetary, revolutionary	-ity	<i>state, degree</i>	capacity, density
-ation	<i>action or process</i>	flirtation, memorization	-ize	<i>treat like, become like</i>	idolize, crystallize
-ative	<i>relating to, made to, tending to</i>	creative, informative, talkative	-less	<i>not having, doing, or becoming</i>	witless, childless, tireless
-dom	<i>realm, state</i>	kingdom, freedom	-let	<i>small one</i>	booklet, droplet
-ee	<i>one who does or receives</i>	escapee, trainee	-like	<i>resembling</i>	apelike, childlike
-eer	<i>one who does or makes</i>	auctioneer, profiteer	-ment	<i>action or process; result; condition</i>	development, entertainment, excitement
-en	<i>cause to be or to have</i>	sharpen, lengthen	-ness	<i>condition, quality</i>	alertness, goodness
-ence, -ency	<i>action, quality</i>	emergence, fluency	-or	<i>one that does</i>	actor, professor
-er	<i>one that has, is, does, or is connected with</i>	double-decker, foreigner, reporter, prisoner	-ory	<i>relating to; place of</i>	illusory, observatory
-ette	<i>little one; female</i>	cigarette, majorette	-ous	<i>full of; having or containing</i>	glamorous, poisonous
-ful	<i>characterized by; amount that fills</i>	peaceful, helpful; cupful	-ship	<i>condition; skill; position, status</i>	friendship, penmanship, professorship
-fy	<i>cause to become</i>	simplify, purify	-some	<i>characterized by; group of (so many)</i>	awesome, foursome
-hood	<i>condition, quality</i>	childhood, likelihood	-ure	<i>act, process; group of people</i>	exposure, legislature
-ide	<i>chemical compound</i>	cyanide, peroxide	-ward	<i>toward</i>	westward, upward
-ie	<i>little one; one that is or relates to</i>	birdie, cutie, druggie	-y	<i>characterized by</i>	dirty, icy, sleepy

English Word Roots

Most words in English are based on Greek and Latin. By learning the common Greek and Latin roots (basic words or word parts from which other words are formed), you can better understand and remember the meaning of many English words. The most useful roots are listed below. For other common English word parts, see Prefixes and Suffixes, page 1958.

ROOT	MEANING	EXAMPLES	ROOT	MEANING	EXAMPLES
acer, acr	<i>sharp, sour</i>	acerbic, acrimony	dec	<i>ten</i>	decade, decimal
acro	<i>height, beginning</i>	acrobatics, acronym	demo	<i>people</i>	democracy, demographic
aer	<i>air</i>	aerate, aerobic, aerodynamic	derm	<i>skin</i>	dermatitis, hypodermic
algia	<i>pain</i>	neuralgia, nostalgia	dic	<i>speak</i>	diction, edict
ambi, amphi	<i>on both sides, around</i>	ambidextrous, ambience, amphitheater	doc, doct	<i>teach</i>	docile, doctrine
ann, enn	<i>year</i>	annual, anniversary, biennial, millennium	dol	<i>grief</i>	condolence, doleful
anthrop	<i>humankind</i>	anthropoid, philanthropy	don	<i>give</i>	donation, condone
antiqu	<i>old</i>	antiquarian, antiquity	dur	<i>hard, lasting</i>	duress, durable, endure
aqu	<i>water</i>	aquarium, aquatic	dyna	<i>power, energy</i>	dynamite, dynasty
arm	<i>weapon</i>	armor, disarming	emia	<i>blood</i>	anemia, leukemia
art	<i>skill</i>	artifact, artisan	equ	<i>equal</i>	equator, equanimity
aster, astr	<i>star, outer space</i>	asterisk, asteroid, astronomy	err	<i>wander, stray</i>	error, erratic
aud	<i>hearing</i>	audience, inaudible	exo	<i>outside</i>	exodus, exorcist
auto	<i>self</i>	autonomy, automated	femin	<i>female</i>	effeminate, feminist
avi	<i>bird</i>	aviary, aviation	fid	<i>faith</i>	confidence, infidel
bell	<i>war</i>	bellicose, rebellion	fig	<i>shape, mold</i>	effigy, disfigure
bene	<i>good</i>	beneficial, benevolent	fil	<i>son</i>	affiliate, filial
bio	<i>life</i>	biosphere, symbiosis	fin	<i>end, boundary</i>	final, finish
cant	<i>sing</i>	cantata, descant	flor	<i>flower</i>	flora, floral
capit	<i>head</i>	capital, decapitate	flu	<i>flow</i>	fluid, fluent, affluence
carn	<i>flesh</i>	carnivore, carnal	form	<i>shape</i>	conform, formation
cav	<i>hollow</i>	cavernous, cavity, excavate	fort	<i>strong</i>	fortress, fortitude
cent	<i>hundred</i>	centigrade, centipede	gen	<i>be born</i>	genealogy, generate
centr, center	<i>middle of a circle</i>	epicenter, egocentric	grad	<i>step, degree</i>	downgrade, gradually
chron	<i>time</i>	chronicle, chronological	graph	<i>write</i>	autograph, graphic
clam, claim	<i>shout, cry out</i>	clamor, acclaim, exclamation	grat	<i>pleasing</i>	gratify, ingratitude
clar	<i>clear</i>	clarion, clarify	gyn	<i>woman</i>	gynecology, misogynist
corp	<i>body</i>	corporation, corpse	hom, homo	<i>same</i>	homogeneous, homogenized
cred	<i>believe</i>	credit, incredible	hydr	<i>water</i>	dehydrated, hydrant
crypt	<i>hidden</i>	cryptic, cryptography, encrypt	unct	<i>join</i>	conjunction, adjunct
culp	<i>guilt</i>	culprit, culpable	jur	<i>swear; right, law</i>	juror, injury, perjure
cycl	<i>circle</i>	cyclone, recycle	juven	<i>youth</i>	juvenile, rejuvenate
de	<i>down, away</i>	dejected, descent	lat	<i>side, wide</i>	bilateral, latitude
			liber	<i>free</i>	liberal, liberate
			lith	<i>stone</i>	megalith, lithography
			luc	<i>light, shine</i>	lucid, elucidate
			lum	<i>light</i>	luminescent, illuminate
			macro	<i>large</i>	macrobiotic, macrocosm
			mal	<i>bad</i>	malpractice, malevolent

ROOT	MEANING	EXAMPLES
mania	<i>mental disorder</i>	egomaniac, kleptomania
manu	<i>hand</i>	manual, manuscript
mar	<i>sea</i>	maritime, submarine
medi	<i>middle</i>	intermediate, medium
mega	<i>large</i>	megadose, megaphone
mens	<i>measure</i>	dimension, immense
metr	<i>measure</i>	isometric, symmetrical
micro	<i>small</i>	microchip, microscopic
mill	<i>thousand; a thousandth</i>	millennium, milligram
mono	<i>one, only</i>	monorail, monotonous
mor, mort	<i>death</i>	immortal, mortician
multi	<i>many</i>	multiple, multiply
mut	<i>change</i>	mutate, transmute
nau	<i>ship</i>	nautical, nauseous
neg	<i>denial, refusal</i>	negative, neglect
neur	<i>nerve</i>	neurologist, neurotic
nom	<i>name</i>	nominate, misnomer
nov	<i>new</i>	innovative, novelty
nul	<i>nothing</i>	annulment, nullify
numer	<i>number</i>	enumerate, numerous
nym	<i>name, word</i>	anonymous, pseudonym
oid	<i>appearance, form</i>	asteroid, ovoid
omni	<i>all</i>	omnipotent, omnivore
orth, ortho	<i>straight, right</i>	orthodontics, orthodox
paleo	<i>old</i>	Paleolithic, paleontology
pan	<i>all, whole</i>	panacea, pandemonium
par	<i>equal</i>	compare, parallel
part	<i>part</i>	apartment, particle
path	<i>suffering</i>	empathy, pathetic
phil	<i>love</i>	bibliophile, philosophy
phob	<i>fear</i>	phobic, technophobia
phon	<i>sound, voice</i>	telephone, symphony
phos, phot	<i>light</i>	phosphorescent, photograph
plac	<i>please, soothe</i>	placid, implacable
plen	<i>full</i>	plentiful, replenish
polis, polit	<i>city, citizen</i>	metropolis, political
poly	<i>many</i>	polygamy, polyglot
popul	<i>people</i>	populated, popularize
port	<i>carry</i>	deport, export
pot	<i>power</i>	potent, despot
prim	<i>first</i>	primary, primitive
prop	<i>own</i>	proprietor, property
psych	<i>mind, soul</i>	psychic, psychological

ROOT	MEANING	EXAMPLES
put	<i>think, believe</i>	impute, reputation
quad, quart	<i>four</i>	quadrangle, quarterly
quint	<i>five</i>	quintet, quintuplet
rect	<i>straight, right</i>	correction, rectify
reg	<i>rule</i>	regulate, irregular
rota	<i>wheel</i>	rotary, rotation
sacr, sanct	<i>holy</i>	sacrosanct, sanctuary
san	<i>health</i>	sanitize, insanity
sci	<i>know, understand</i>	science, prescient
scop	<i>look, view</i>	colonoscopy, horoscope
scrib, scrip	<i>write</i>	inscription, prescribe
sect	<i>cut</i>	section, dissect
sent, sens	<i>feel, sense</i>	sentimental, sensual
serv	<i>keep</i>	conservative, preserve
sign	<i>sign, mark</i>	designate, signature
simil, simul	<i>like, make like</i>	facsimile, simulate
sol	<i>sun</i>	solar, parasol
somn	<i>sleep</i>	insomniac, somnolent
son	<i>sound</i>	sonata, supersonic
spir	<i>breath, spirit</i>	dispiriting, inspirational, respiratory
strat	<i>layer</i>	stratosphere, stratified
surg	<i>rise</i>	insurgency, upsurge
sym, syn	<i>with</i>	sympathy, synchronize
tele	<i>distant</i>	telephoto, telepathic
tempor	<i>time</i>	temporal, contemporary
ten, tenu	<i>hold; thin</i>	tenant, attenuate
term, termin	<i>limit, bound</i>	interminable, terminal
terr	<i>earth, land</i>	subterranean, territory
therm, thermo	<i>heat</i>	thermal, thermostat
top	<i>place</i>	topical, topography
tract	<i>drag, pull, draw</i>	attractive, retract
urb	<i>city</i>	urban, suburb
ver	<i>truth</i>	verify, veracity
verb	<i>word</i>	verbal, verbatim
vest	<i>clothe</i>	divest, transvestite
vid, vis	<i>see, sight</i>	evidence, video, visionary
vir	<i>man</i>	virile, virtuoso
viv, vit	<i>life, live</i>	survivor, vital
voc	<i>speaking, calling</i>	vocal, vocation
volu, volv	<i>roll, turn around</i>	evolution, revolve

Words That Are Often Confused

Because English has a large vocabulary and English spelling is difficult, even native speakers sometimes write a word that looks and sounds similar to the word they are thinking of but has a different meaning. The words below are the ones that native speakers most often confuse.

The definitions that are shown here are very short. You can find full definitions for these words in the dictionary.

When a word is commonly used as two different parts of speech, labels indicate which these are: *(n)* noun, *(pron)* pronoun, *(vb)* verb, *(adj)* adjective, *(adv)* adverb, *(prep)* preposition, *(conj)* conjunction.

See also Spelling Rules, p. 1965.

accede to agree
exceed to go beyond

accent *(vb)* to stress;
(n) emphasis

ascend to climb

ascent climb

assent to agree

accept to receive, to agree to
except not including

access *(n)* ability to enter;
(vb) to enter

excess extra amount

adapt to adjust, to change

adept skilled

adopt to take as your own

addition something added
edition book or newspaper

adjoin to be next to
adjourn to end a meeting

adverse not good
averse against, opposed

advice suggestions
advise to give advice

affect to influence
effect result

allude to talk about, to refer
elude to avoid

allusion hint, reference
illusion false idea or picture

anecdote brief story
antidote medicine for poison

any more additional
anymore now, still

assure to give confidence to
ensure to make certain
insure to make certain, to
prepare for when a bad thing
happens

aural relating to hearing
oral relating to the mouth,
spoken

base foundation, bottom
bass musical instrument, deep
voice, fish

born starting to live
borne carried

brake *(n)* device for stopping;
(vb) to slow or stop
break to crack, to destroy

breadth width
breath air from your mouth
breathe to take air into
your mouth

bridal relating to a bride
bridle straps that are put on a
horse's head

capital city that is the center of
government
capitol government building
Capitol U.S. Congress building
in Washington, D.C.

casually in a relaxed way
casualty someone who is
injured or killed

cite to quote
sight ability to see, something
that you see
site location, set of Web pages

climactic relating to a high
point
climatic relating to weather

collaborate to work together
corroborate to say or show
that something is true

collision act of hitting
collusion act of working
together to hurt someone

complement *(n)* remaining
part; *(vb)* to complete
compliment to praise

confidant someone who is
trusted with secrets
confident certain, sure of your
own abilities

conscience awareness of right and wrong	eminent well-known, prominent	lead (<i>vb</i>) to guide; (<i>n</i>) heavy metal
conscious mentally awake	imminent ready to happen	led guided
consul diplomat	envelop to surround	liable likely, exposed to risk
council group that meets for special purposes	envelope paper holder for a letter	libel to make false statements about
counsel (<i>vb</i>) to give advice; (<i>n</i>) lawyer	every day each day	loose not attached, free to move
credible believable	everyday ordinary	lose to misplace, to fail to win
creditable deserving praise	flaunt to display	martial military
currant fruit	flout to defy	marital relating to marriage
current (<i>n</i>) stream; (<i>adj</i>) happening now	flounder to struggle helplessly	medal metal piece resembling a coin
decent good, satisfactory	founder to sink	meddle to interfere
descent downward movement	formally in a formal manner	median (<i>adj</i>) in the middle of a group of numbers;
dissent difference of opinion	formerly earlier	(<i>n</i>) something in the middle of a range
decree official order	forth forward, onward	medium (<i>adj</i>) not large or small; (<i>n</i>) way of communicating
degree extent	fourth 4th	miner mine worker
defuse to make less harmful	gait manner of walking	minor (<i>adj</i>) not important; (<i>n</i>) young person
diffuse to spread out or scatter	gate entrance	moral good, ethical
deluded believing false things	gorilla large ape	morale emotional state
diluted lessened in strength	guerrilla non-army fighter	peace state of calm
depraved corrupted	hardy strong, tough	piece part, unit
deprived poor	hearty loud and happy, healthy	pear fruit
desert (<i>n</i>) dry region; (<i>vb</i>) to leave	hoard treasure, hidden supply	peer (<i>vb</i>) to look closely; (<i>n</i>) person of equal rank
dessert sweet food following a meal	horde crowd	pier a place for a boat to stop
detract to reduce	incite to cause bad actions	pedal foot lever
distract to draw attention away	insight wisdom, ability to understand	peddle to sell
device tool	incredible unbelievable, amazing	perpetrate to be guilty of
devise to invent, to create	incredulous amazed	perpetuate to make something continue
e.g. for example	ingenious very clever	persecute to be unfair or cruel to
i.e. that is, namely	ingenuous innocent and sincere	prosecute to sue or charge legally
elicit to bring out	inherent natural and basic	
illicit not lawful	inherit to receive from someone who has died	
eligible entitled, qualified	it's it is, it has	
illegible not readable	its belonging to it	

personal private, individual	reality state of being real	their belonging to them
personnel group of employees	realty real estate	there in that place
		they're they are
plain ordinary, not fancy	respectfully with respect	thorough complete
plane airplane, flat surface	respectively in the order mentioned	through (prep) by way of; (adj) finished
pole long thin piece of wood or metal	resume to start again	to toward
poll sampling of opinion	résumé summary of a career	too also, very
		two 2
pore to read carefully	right (adj) correct; (n) privilege	
pour to empty from a container	rite ceremony	track path, footprints
		tract piece of land
pray to speak to God	role part, function	
prey (n) victim; (vb) to hunt	roll to turn over many times	waist middle of a body
		waste (vb) to use carelessly; (n) garbage
precede to come before	shone past tense of <i>shine</i>	
proceed to move forward, to continue	shown past participle of <i>show</i>	waive to give up willingly
		wave to motion with the hand
preposition part of speech	sit to rest, to be located	
proposition proposal, suggestion	set (vb) to place, to apply; (n) group, collection	wander to walk without a particular purpose or direction
principal (adj) main, primary; (n) school leader, main performer	stationary not moving	wonder (vb) to question, to feel surprise; (n) amazement
principle basic rule or law	stationery writing paper	
		weather rain, snow, wind, etc.
quiet noiseless	statue piece of sculpture	whether if
quite very, rather	stature height, importance	
	statute law	were past tense of <i>are</i>
rain water falling from the sky	tack small nail, course of action	we're we are
reign (n) rule; (vb) to govern	tact social sensitivity	where (adv) at what place; (conj) in the place
rein (n) strap used to guide a horse, restraint; (vb) to restrain	tenant person renting a house or apartment	
	tenet belief, principle	who's who is, who has
		whose of whom
raise to lift, to increase	than compared to	your belonging to you
raze to tear down	then at that time	you're you are

Spelling Rules

Since English evolved from many different sources, English words can be difficult to spell, even for native English-speakers.

Regular and irregular spellings for pluralized nouns, comparative and superlative forms of adjectives, verb tenses, and adverbs ending in *-ly* are shown at the entries in this dictionary. Here we provide the basic rules that determine most of these spellings along with some other general rules for spelling English words.

Nouns

- Most regular plurals are formed by simply adding *-s*: *car, cars*.
- For nouns ending in *-s*, *-x*, *-z*, *-ch*, or *-sh*, add *-es*: *loss, losses; box, boxes; blitz, blitzes; lunch, lunches; dish, dishes*.
- For nouns ending in *-y*, change the *y* to *i* and add *-es*: *academy, academies*. For nouns ending in a *-y* that comes after a vowel, add *-s*: *alley, alleys*.
- For a few nouns ending in *-f* or *-fe*, change the *-f* or *-fe* to *-ves*: *calf, calves; elf, elves; half, halves; hoof, hooves; knife, knives; leaf, leaves; life, lives; loaf, loaves; self, selves; shelf, shelves; thief, thieves; wife, wives; wolf, wolves*.
- For some nouns ending in an *-o* that comes after a consonant, form the plural by adding *-es*: *cargo, cargoes; echo, echoes; hero, heroes; motto, mottoes; potato, potatoes; tomato, tomatoes*.
- For some nouns of Latin origin ending in *-a*, add *-e*: *larva, larvae; vertebra, vertebrae*. For some nouns of Latin origin ending in *-um*, replace the *-um* with *-a*: *bacterium, bacteria; quantum, quanta*. For some nouns of Latin origin ending in *-us*, replace the *-us* with *-i*: *alumnus, alumni; fungus, fungi*.
- For words of Greek origin ending in *-is*, substitute *-es*: *analysis, analyses; basis, bases; crisis, crises; oasis, oases*.
- For many animals, use the same spelling for both singular and plural forms: *moose, moose; sheep, sheep*.
- Some plural forms of nouns are completely irregular: *foot, feet; mouse, mice; goose, geese*.

Adjectives

- To form regular comparatives and superlatives of one-syllable adjectives and some two-syllable adjectives, add *-er* and *-est*: *warm, warmer, warmest; clever, cleverer, cleverest*. Do not double a final *-e*: *nice, nicer, nicest*.
- When a final *-y* follows a consonant, form the comparative and superlative by changing the *y* to *i* and adding *-er* and *-est*: *lazy, lazier, laziest*.
- When a one-syllable word ends in a consonant that follows a single vowel, double the consonant before adding *-er* or *-est*: *mad, madder, maddest*.
- When forming an adjective by adding the suffix *-able* to a verb, remove the verb's final *-e*: *cure, curable; advise, advisable*. Do not remove the *-e* when it comes after *c* or *g*: *enforce, enforceable; manage, manageable*. When the word ends in *-y*, change the *y* to *i*: *deny, deniable; rely, reliable*.

Verbs

- To form the present-tense third-person singular form of regular verbs, simply add *-s*: *work, works*. Add *-es* for verbs ending in *-s*, *-x*, *-z*, *-ch*, or *-sh*: *bless, blesses; fix, fixes; buzz, buzzes; teach, teaches; wish, wishes*.
- For almost all verbs ending in an *-e* that comes after a consonant, remove the *e* before adding *-ed* or *-ing*: *arrange, arranged, arranging*.
- For regular verbs ending in a vowel followed by *-e*, form the past tense by removing the *e* before adding *-ed*: *agree, agreed; lie, lied; hoe, hoed; argue, argued*.
- For regular verbs ending in a *-y* that comes after a consonant, form the past tense and past participle by changing the *y* to *i* and adding *-ed*: *carry, carried*.
- For verbs ending in *-ac* or *-ic*, add *-k* when forming the past tense, past participle, and present participle: *traffic, trafficked, trafficking*.
- For verbs ending in a consonant following a single vowel and stressed on the final syllable, double the final consonant (except *v*, *w*, *x*, and *y*) when forming the tenses: *admit, admitted, admitting; grab, grabbed, grabbing; hum, hummed, humming*.

personal private, individual	reality state of being real	their belonging to them
personnel group of employees	realty real estate	there in that place
		they're they are
plain ordinary, not fancy	respectfully with respect	thorough complete
plane airplane, flat surface	respectively in the order mentioned	through (prep) by way of; (adj) finished
pole long thin piece of wood or metal	resume to start again	to toward
poll sampling of opinion	résumé summary of a career	too also, very
		two 2
pore to read carefully	right (adj) correct; (n) privilege	
pour to empty from a container	rite ceremony	track path, footprints
		tract piece of land
pray to speak to God	role part, function	
prey (n) victim; (vb) to hunt	roll to turn over many times	waist middle of a body
		waste (vb) to use carelessly; (n) garbage
precede to come before	shone past tense of <i>shine</i>	
proceed to move forward, to continue	shown past participle of <i>show</i>	waive to give up willingly
		wave to motion with the hand
preposition part of speech	sit to rest, to be located	
proposition proposal, suggestion	set (vb) to place, to apply; (n) group, collection	wander to walk without a particular purpose or direction
	stationary not moving	
principal (adj) main, primary; (n) school leader, main performer	stationery writing paper	wonder (vb) to question, to feel surprise; (n) amazement
principle basic rule or law	statue piece of sculpture	
	stature height, importance	weather rain, snow, wind, etc.
	statute law	whether if
quiet noiseless		
quite very, rather	tack small nail, course of action	were past tense of <i>are</i>
	tact social sensitivity	we're we are
rain water falling from the sky		where (adv) at what place; (conj) in the place
reign (n) rule; (vb) to govern	tenant person renting a house or apartment	
rein (n) strap used to guide a horse, restraint; (vb) to restrain	tenet belief, principle	who's who is, who has
		whose of whom
raise to lift, to increase	than compared to	your belonging to you
raze to tear down	then at that time	you're you are

Spelling Rules

Since English evolved from many different sources, English words can be difficult to spell, even for native English-speakers.

Regular and irregular spellings for pluralized nouns, comparative and superlative forms of adjectives, verb tenses, and adverbs ending in *-ly* are shown at the entries in this dictionary. Here we provide the basic rules that determine most of these spellings along with some other general rules for spelling English words.

Nouns

- Most regular plurals are formed by simply adding *-s*: *car, cars*.
- For nouns ending in *-s*, *-x*, *-z*, *-ch*, or *-sh*, add *-es*: *loss, losses; box, boxes; blitz, blitzes; lunch, lunches; dish, dishes*.
- For nouns ending in *-y*, change the *y* to *i* and add *-es*: *academy, academies*. For nouns ending in a *-y* that comes after a vowel, add *-s*: *alley, alleys*.
- For a few nouns ending in *-f* or *-fe*, change the *-f* or *-fe* to *-ves*: *calf, calves; elf, elves; half, halves; hoof, hooves; knife, knives; leaf, leaves; life, lives; loaf, loaves; self, selves; shelf, shelves; thief, thieves; wife, wives; wolf, wolves*.
- For some nouns ending in an *-o* that comes after a consonant, form the plural by adding *-es*: *cargo, cargoes; echo, echoes; hero, heroes; motto, mottoes; potato, potatoes; tomato, tomatoes*.
- For some nouns of Latin origin ending in *-a*, add *-e*: *larva, larvae; vertebra, vertebrae*. For some nouns of Latin origin ending in *-um*, replace the *-um* with *-a*: *bacterium, bacteria; quantum, quanta*. For some nouns of Latin origin ending in *-us*, replace the *-us* with *-i*: *alumnus, alumni; fungus, fungi*.
- For words of Greek origin ending in *-is*, substitute *-es*: *analysis, analyses; basis, bases; crisis, crises; oasis, oases*.
- For many animals, use the same spelling for both singular and plural forms: *moose, moose; sheep, sheep*.
- Some plural forms of nouns are completely irregular: *foot, feet; mouse, mice; goose, geese*.

Adjectives

- To form regular comparatives and superlatives of one-syllable adjectives and some two-syllable adjectives, add *-er* and *-est*: *warm, warmer, warmest; clever, cleverer, cleverest*. Do not double a final *-e*: *nice, nicer, nicest*.
- When a final *-y* follows a consonant, form the comparative and superlative by changing the *y* to *i* and adding *-er* and *-est*: *lazy, lazier, laziest*.
- When a one-syllable word ends in a consonant that follows a single vowel, double the consonant before adding *-er* or *-est*: *mad, madder, maddest*.
- When forming an adjective by adding the suffix *-able* to a verb, remove the verb's final *-e*: *cure, curable; advise, advisable*. Do not remove the *-e* when it comes after *c* or *g*: *enforce, enforceable; manage, manageable*. When the word ends in *-y*, change the *y* to *i*: *deny, deniable; rely, reliable*.

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- For verbs ending in a consonant following a single vowel and stressed on the final syllable, double the final consonant (except *v*, *w*, *x*, and *y*) when forming the tenses: *admit, admitted, admitting; grab, grabbed, grabbing; hum, hummed, humming*.

Adverbs

- Form most adverbs by simply adding *-ly* to an adjective: *tight, tightly*.
- When the adjective ends in *-y*, change the *y* to *i* and add *-ly*: *dreamy, dreamily; merry, merrily*.
- When the adjective ends in *-ic*, add *-ally* in almost all cases: *academic, academically; artistic, artistically; athletic, athletically*.
- When the adjective ends in *-ll*, remove one *l* before adding *-ly*: *full, fully*.

Other Rules

- The letters *j, q, x*, and *y* are never doubled in English words, and *a, h, i, k, u, v*, and *w* are almost never doubled. (Exceptions: *aardvark, bazaar; hitchhike, roughhouse, withhold; shiitake, skiing; jackknife, knickknack; continuum, muumuu, vacuum; divvy, savvy; glowworm, powwow.*)
- English words never end in *j* or *q*, and they almost never end in *v*.
- The letter *q* is always followed by *u* in English words: *quick, mystique*.
- When *i* and *e* come together to produce an /i:/ sound, the *e* normally follows the *i*: *believe, cookie, piece*. (Exceptions: *caffeine, leisure, protein, seize, weird*.) When both letters follow *c*, the *i* normally follows the *e*: *ceiling, receive, conceit*. (People commonly use a rhyme to remember the rule: “*i* before *e* except after *c*.”)
- When *i* and *e* come together to produce an /ei/ sound, the *i* follows the *e*: *eighty, freight, neighbor, weigh*.
- When *i* and *e* come together following a *c* that is pronounced /ʃ/, the *i* comes before the *e*: *ancient, sufficient*.
- When a prefix is added to a word, the spelling of the original word does not change: *read, reread; spell, misspell; necessary, unnecessary*.
- If a word ends with a silent *-e*, the *-e* is dropped before adding a suffix that begins with a vowel: *sense, sensory; race, racism*. The final *-e* is kept if it comes after a soft *c* or *g*: *notice, noticeable; change, changeable*. (Exception: The *-e* is generally dropped before *-ing*: *notice, noticing; change, changing*.)
- The letter *c* produces the /s/ sound only before the vowels *e, i*, and *y*: *center, cinema, cycle*. It produces the /k/ sound elsewhere: *act, cause, corner, cut*. (Exceptions: *Celt, soccer*.)
- The letter *g* produces the /dʒ/ sound only before the vowels *e, i*, and *y*: *genius, giant, Gypsy*. (Exception: *margarine*.)

Words Often Misspelled

The following list includes many of the words most often misspelled by native English-speakers. (See also Words Often Confused, p. 1962.)

absence	definite	independent	pursue
accelerate	description	inoculate	receipt
accidentally	despair	insistent	receive
accommodate	desperate	intelligent	recommend
accumulate	development	irresistible	rein
achieve	disappear	led	repetition
acquire	discipline	library	restaurant
acquit	dissipate	lightning	rhythm
already	ecstasy	liquefy	seize
amateur	embarrass	maintenance	separate
appearance	exaggerate	marriage	sergeant
argument	exceed	memento	siege
basically	existence	millennium	successful
believe	February	minuscule	supersede
broccoli	finally	mischievous	surprise
business	foreign	misspell	threshold
calendar	forty	necessary	tomorrow
category	gauge	occasion	weird
cemetery	government	occurred	withhold
commemorate	grammar	parallel	yield
committee	harass	phenomenon	
consensus	height	possession	
deceive	humorous	privilege	

American vs. British Spelling

British spelling differs from American spelling in a few ways, mostly because of the spelling reforms that Noah Webster carried out in the U.S. beginning in the 1780s. Several common differences are shown below.

-e- /-ae-: In words derived from Greek, British English often uses the Greek spelling *-ae-*:

AMERICAN	BRITISH
anemia	anaemia
eon	aeon
orthopedics	orthopaedics
primeval	primaeval

-e- /-oe-: In words derived from Greek, British English often uses the Greek spelling *-oe-*:

AMERICAN	BRITISH
diarrhea	diarrhoea
gonorrhea	gonorrhoea
homeopathic	homoeopathic
maneuver	manoeuvre

-er /-re: The *-er/-re* difference is seen at the ends of many words:

AMERICAN	BRITISH
center	centre
fiber	fibre
meter	metre
theater	theatre

-l- /-ll-: In British English, the final *-l* of a verb is doubled when *-ed* or *-ing* is added at the end, even when the stress does not fall on the last syllable:

AMERICAN	BRITISH
counseled	counselled
dialed	dialled
equaling	equalling
traveling	travelling

-or- /-our-: The spelling *-our-* in words in British English often appears as *-or-* in words in American English, especially in an unstressed final syllable:

AMERICAN	BRITISH
color	colour
favorite	favourite
honor	honour
humor	humour

-ze /-se: Words that end in *-ize* and *-yze* in American English are often spelled *-ise* and *-yse* in British English:

AMERICAN	BRITISH
analyze	analyse
criticize	criticise
memorize	memorise
paralyze	paralyse

Unlike abbreviations in American English, an abbreviation in British English usually does not have a period at the end if its last letter is the same as the last letter of the word being abbreviated: *Mr./Mr* (for *Mister*), *St./St* (for *Saint* or *Street*), *Dr./Dr* (for *Doctor*), *Ltd.* (for *Limited*), etc.

Many other spelling differences affect only individual words.

AMERICAN	BRITISH
airplane	aeroplane
jewelry	jewellery
jail	gaol
tire	tyre

The Spelling of Different Sounds in English

In English pronunciation, many individual sounds may be spelled in several ways. The following list shows, in **boldface** type, the most common ways of spelling each sound, followed by an example. If you know how a word is pronounced but are not sure how to spell it, this list may help you to find it in the dictionary.

Some words may be pronounced in different ways. When a word appears in *italics* below, this means that the sound being illustrated is not used in every pronunciation of the word.

Sometimes a sound is pronounced in a word but is not represented by any letter in that word. In such cases, a dash (–) appears where the boldface spelling of the sound would be, and the word’s full pronunciation is shown, as in the last two entries at /ə/:

- chasm /'kæzəm/
- McCoy /mə'kɔɪ/

A dash and the full pronunciation of a word are also shown when it is difficult to know which letter or letters represent a particular sound in the word, as in the last entry at /tʃ/:

- nature /'neɪtʃə/

Vowels and Diphthongs

/ə/	a	abut	/æ/	a	mat	/aɪ, aj/	i	fine		
	e	silent					y	sly		
	i	marinate		/eɪ, ej/	a		fade	ie	lie	
	o	hillock			ai		main	ye	dye	
	u	circus			ay		day	/ou, ow/	o	bone
	y	physician			ea	steak	oa		coat	
	ah	cheetah			ei	vein	oe		doe	
	ai	captain		ey	prey	oh	oh			
	ea	ocean		/ɑ, ɑ:/	o	cot	ou		boulder	
	eo	luncheon			au	sausage	ow	know		
	ia	collegiate			aw	saw	/oɪ, oj/	oi	coin	
	io	cushion			a	father		oy	boy	
	ou	famous			ah	shah		/u, u:/	u	flu
	–	chasm /'kæzəm/		/aʊ, aw/	ou	loud			o	do
	–	McCoy /mə'kɔɪ/			ow	now			eu	rheumatism
/ʌ/	u	humdrum				ew	crew			
	o	above	/ɛ/		e	bet	oo		school	
	ou	rough			ea	bread	ou	youth		
/ə, ər/	er	fern	/i, i:/	e	me	/u/	ue	blue		
	ir	bird		i	ski		u	pull		
	ur	fur		y	pretty		oo	wood		
	or	world		ea	easy		o	woman		
	ar	liar		ee	see		ou	could		
	re	ogre		ei	receive	/iə, ɪr/	er	serious		
	ear	earth		ey	key		ir	emir		
	eur	chauffeur		ie	grief		ear	hear		
	our	journal					eer	beer		
	err	<i>err</i>		/ɪ/	i		tip	eir	weird	
	irr	<i>squirrel</i>			y	myth	ier	pier		
	urr	hurry								

/eə, er/	ar	bare	/ɑə, ar/	ar	farther	/uə, ur/	ur	lure
	er	there		or	sorry		oor	boor
	air	air		our	tour			
	ear	bear		/oə, or/	or		port	
	eir	their			ar		war	
	err	<i>err</i>			oar		boar	
			oor	door				
			our	pour				

Consonants

/b/	b	baby	/l/	al	pedal	se	<i>nauseous</i>	
	bb	rubber		el	betel	ss	tissue	
/tʃ/	ch	rich		ol	idol	ti	nation	
	c	cello		yl	vinyl	sch	schist	
	ti	question		le	battle	sci	conscious	
	tch	match	/m/	m	me	ssi	mission	
–	nature /'neɪtʃə/	mb		comb	/t/	t	eat	
/d/	d	did		mm	dummy	tt	mattress	
	dd	odd		mn	autumn	ed	cracked	
	ed	crazed	/n/	n	no	/θ/	th	thin
/f/	f	fan		gn	sign	/ð/	th	this
	ff	offer		kn	knot	/v/	v	very
	gh	laugh		mn	mnemonic		vv	savvy
	ph	telephone		nn	banner	/w/	w	way
/g/	g	go	/ŋ/	an	Satan		wh	whale
	gg	egg	en	sudden	u		persuade	
	gh	ghost	in	satin	–		choir /'kwajə/	
	gu	guide	on	cotton	–		one /'wʌn/	
	–	example	un	bosun	–		patois /'pæ,twa:/	
		/ɪg'zæmpəl/			–		strenuous	
/h/	h	hat	/ŋ/	n	ink	–	/'strenjəwəs/	
			ng	sing	/p/	y	yard	
/dʒ/	g	gem	/p/	p		stop	i	opinion
	j	joy	pp	supper		–	beauty /'bju:ti/	
	dg	budget	/r/	r		red	–	cute /'kju:t/
	di	soldier		rh	rhyme	–	feud /'fju:d/	
	dj	adjective		rr	arrive	–	few /'fju:/	
	gg	exaggerate		wr	write	–	strenuous	
	gi	region		/s/	s	say	–	/'strenjəwəs/
	–	graduation	c		race	–	unit /'ju:nət/	
	/grædʒə'weɪʃən/	ss	mass		/z/	s	days	
/k/	c	fact	sc			fascinate	z	zone
	k	take	–	tax /'tæks/		x	xylophone	
	q	aqua	/ʃ/	sh		shy	zz	buzz
	cc	soccer		c		oceanic	–	example
	ch	<i>schism</i>		s	sugar	–	/ɪg'zæmpəl/	
	ck	pick		ch	machine	/ʒ/	si	vision
	cq	acquisition		ci	special		zi	glazier
	–	tax /'tæks/	sc	fascism	–		azure /'æʒə/	
				–	measure /'meʒə/			
/l/	l	low						
	ll	dollar						

Handbook of Style

This section deals with the elements of written English that do not include grammar, spelling, or choice of words. It discusses the use of punctuation, capital letters, and italic type, and the special problems in writing compounds, abbreviations, and numbers.

Punctuation

Apostrophe ' ---

1. The apostrophe is used with nouns and some pronouns to show that a person or thing belongs to someone or something. This form of a noun or pronoun is called the *possessive* (see Possession, page 1948). If the noun or pronoun is singular, the possessive is formed by adding -'s.

the dog's owner
someone's idea

If a noun is plural, the possessive is usually formed by adding just an apostrophe.

most birds' eggs
the Johnsons' house

2. The apostrophe is used in contractions and numbers to show that some letters or digits have been omitted.

didn't [=did not]
they're [=they are]
the '80s and '90s [=the 1980s and 1990s]

3. The apostrophe is used in the plurals of letters and numbers, and often in the plurals of abbreviations.

two A's
a row of 8's
several NGO's *or* several NGOs

Brackets (*or* Square Brackets) [] ---

Brackets are used around words or letters that have been added to quoted text.

His letter of November 2 ends: "By the way, did B[eaverbrook] mention it?"
"In my Father's house are many mansions [i.e., rooms]."

See also Parentheses, p. 1972.

Colon :

1. The colon introduces a word or phrase that gives more detail about the word or phrase that

comes before it. When a full sentence follows the colon, its first word is often capitalized.

That year she took up a new sport: tennis.
They had reached a decision: The defendant was guilty.

2. The colon introduces a list or series.

Five of the crew members chose to go: Crawford, Sunshine, King, Gilbert, and Loretucci.

3. The colon may introduce quotations.

His father had followed Emerson's rule: "Never read any book that is not a year old."

Together the class recited the well-known lines from Shakespeare:

This happy breed of men, this little world,
This precious stone set in the silver sea,
This blessed plot, this earth, this realm, this England

4. The colon separates titles from subtitles.

the biography *Einstein: His Life and Universe*

Comma , ---

1. The comma separates independent clauses joined by *and*, *or*, *but*, *so*, *yet*, *for*, or *nor*.

The bar was closing, and the last two customers were finishing their drinks.

The trial had lasted nine months, but the jury needed only four hours to reach its verdict.

2. The comma separates adverbial words, clauses, and phrases from the rest of a sentence.

In fact, no one seemed to have heard of him.

They concluded, however, that she had told the truth.

Having lost five games, we were almost desperate.

The storm, after a short pause, revived with even greater fury.

3. The comma is used after words and phrases that introduce examples.

First she called two friends, Soraya and Magda.

4. The comma separates words and phrases in a series. (Some writers always omit the comma before *and* and *or*.)

Geese, ducks, and chickens shared the large pen.
He had already showered, shaved, and dressed.
There were no sheets, blankets, or pillows.

5. The comma usually separates two or more ordinary adjectives that come before a noun.

the shiny, orange fabric
her cool, formal, elegant style

If the first adjective applies to everything that follows it, the comma is omitted.

her first major defeat
the only clean plate
a good used car

6. A comma usually separates a word or phrase from a noun that it identifies or defines and that comes immediately before or after it. If the word or phrase comes in the middle of a sentence, another comma separates it from the rest of the sentence.

We visited Gettysburg, site of the famous Civil War battle.
One of the book's authors, Julia Child, went on to become a television icon.

7. The comma usually separates a direct quotation from a phrase (such as "he said" or "Jane replied") that shows who is being quoted. A comma at the end of a quotation is always placed inside the quotation marks. Commas are not used after question marks or exclamation points.

Kate whispered, "It's time to go."
"I suspect," Gregory observed, "that we'll see them again."
"Would anyone like some salad?" she asked.
"Go to bed right now!" he shouted.

8. The comma is used before a short question (called a tag question) that sometimes occurs in conversation at the end of a sentence.

"We can't stay here; can we?"
"It's almost lunchtime, isn't it?"

9. The comma usually divides the digits of a number into groups of three. See Numbers, p. 1975.

Dash —

1. The dash marks a sudden change or break in a sentence.

All the younger officers would remain loyal to the new ruler—or perhaps they wouldn't.
He'd always done every job they had asked him to—even the most ridiculous ones—and he'd had enough.

2. The dash may introduce a phrase that defines a word that precedes it.

The marriage was annulled—that is, declared invalid.

3. The dash, like the colon, may introduce a list:
Her duties were the ordinary ones—cleaning, cooking, shopping, and sometimes looking after the children.

Ellipsis . . .

1. The ellipsis indicates that words have been omitted from a quoted sentence. The second and third examples below are shortened versions of the first.

"Is it so bad, then, to be misunderstood? Pythagoras was misunderstood, and Socrates, and Jesus, and Luther, and Copernicus, and Galileo, and Newton, and every pure and wise spirit that ever took flesh. To be great is to be misunderstood."

"Is it so bad, then, to be misunderstood? Pythagoras was misunderstood, and Socrates, and Jesus, . . . To be great is to be misunderstood."

"Is it so bad, then, to be misunderstood? . . . To be great is to be misunderstood."

2. The ellipsis indicates a pause or an unfinished sentence in speech.

"Are you . . . Are the two of you . . . in love?"

Exclamation Point !

1. The exclamation point ends a sentence, word, or phrase that expresses strong emotion (such as surprise or anger).

The jewels were gone!
Excellent!
Absolutely not!

2. The exclamation point may end a word or phrase that interrupts a sentence to express a strong emotion.

The children—thank God!—weren't there when it happened.

Hyphen -

1. The hyphen is often used to link words to form a compound. (See Compounds, p. 1973.)

a cost-effective program
three light-years
an up-to-date list

2. The hyphen is used in spelled-out numbers.

forty-one years old
his forty-first birthday

3. The hyphen is used between numbers and dates, with the meaning "to" or "up to and including." (In printed material, a slightly longer dash is used.)

pages 112–18
served as secretary-general 1995–99
Vacation dates are Dec. 20–Jan. 12.

4. The hyphen is used between two nouns or numbers, with the meaning "to," "and," or "versus." (In printed material, a slightly longer dash is used.)

a New York–Paris flight
the last Sampras–Agassi match
a final score of 7–2

5. The hyphen is used to divide a word at the end of a line.

In 1975 smallpox was declared completely eradicated by the World Health Organization.

6. The hyphen separates a prefix from a capitalized word, and may separate a suffix from a word that is more than two syllables long.

anti-American
industry-wide

Parentheses (or Brackets) ()

1. Parentheses are used around words, phrases, clauses, and sentences that give examples, explanations, or additional facts. Within a sentence, a phrase in parentheses may end with an exclamation point, a question mark, or quotation marks; it may not end with a period except after an abbreviation.

The government believes this is unnecessary. (We're hoping that will change.)

Four computers (all outdated models) were replaced.

His prose was awkward (he had never really learned to shape a good paragraph), and he struggled with even the simplest writing tasks.

The music there is always extremely loud (are all young people deaf?).

On bad days he yells a lot ("No one here knows how to do their job!"), but he's usually pleasant enough.

There were photos of most of the major stars of the 1950s (Doris Day, Humphrey Bogart, Marlon Brando, Marilyn Monroe, etc.).

2. Parentheses are used around numbers or letters that indicate individual items in a series within a sentence.

They were concerned about three security issues: (1) ports, (2) air flights, and (3) national borders.

Period (or Full Stop) .

1. The period ends a sentence or sentence fragment that is not a question or an exclamation.

Few travelers ever dared to enter the forest.
Tell me about it.
Unlikely. In fact, impossible.

Only one period comes at the end of a sentence, even if the sentence ends with a quoted sentence or an abbreviation.

She especially liked the sentence, "Leda Rubin has been the true spirit of Blake Business Machines, Inc."

2. A period ends most abbreviations, especially in American writing.

Peter R. Addington, Jr.	vegetables, grains, etc.
Dr. Rosenberg	Sept. 16
11 p.m.	American Dental Assn.

See Abbreviations, p. 1975.

Question Mark ?

A question mark ends a direct question, but not an indirect question.

Was anyone seen on the street after midnight?
"Was anyone seen on the street after midnight?" she asked.
She asked whether anyone had been seen on the street after midnight.

Quotation Marks, Double (or Inverted Commas) “ ”

1. Quotation marks are used around direct quotations, but not indirect quotations.

"I'm leaving," she whispered. "This meeting could go on forever."
She whispered that she was leaving.

2. Quotation marks are used around words or phrases borrowed from others.

The military term "collateral damage" often refers to the deaths of civilians.

3. Quotation marks are used around titles of songs, poems, stories, essays, and articles.

"Over the Rainbow" was chosen by Americans as the most beloved song of the 20th century.
Frost's most famous poem is "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening."
The first detective story was probably Poe's "The Murders in the Rue Morgue."
Thoreau's essay "Civil Disobedience" was studied by Mohandas Gandhi and Martin Luther King.
The article was published in the *New Yorker* as "The Coming Wars."

4. Quotation marks are used with other punctuation marks as follows:

A period or comma at the end of a quotation is placed inside the quotation marks.

He smiled and said, "I'm happy for you."
"That's ridiculous," she said quickly.

A colon or semicolon is placed outside the quotation marks.

Medals were given to the three "most promising scholars": Hernández, Jeffries, and Yomuro.
She called it her "little house in the country"; to us it looked like a palace.

A dash, question mark, or exclamation point is placed inside the quotation marks when it punc-

tuates the quoted matter only, but outside the quotation marks when it punctuates the larger sentence.

“I can’t see how—” he started to say.
He told everyone to bring beach sandals—he called them “flip-flops”—and an umbrella.
She collapsed in her seat with a stunned “Good God!”
“Has anyone seen Emily?” she asked.
What does he mean by “personal reasons”?

Quotation Marks, Single (*or* Inverted Commas) ‘ ’

1. Single quotation marks are used around a quotation within another quotation.
“I heard him say ‘Don’t be late,’ and then the door closed.”
2. Often in British writing, single quotation marks are used around ordinary quoted material, and double quotation marks are used around a quotation within another quotation.
‘I heard him say “Don’t be late,” and then the door closed.’

Semicolon ;

1. The semicolon joins two closely related main clauses. It is used especially when the second clause is introduced by an adverb or a short phrase, such as *however, indeed, thus, in that case, as a result, on the other hand, for example, or that is*.
Mix the milk and flour; add the eggs and beat well.
The job won’t be easy; however, it has to be done.
The boat was two hours late; as a result, they missed their train.
He worried about his wife; that is, he worried that she would worry about him.
2. The semicolon separates phrases or items in a series when they contain commas.
It includes \$22 million in land, buildings, and equipment; \$34 million in stocks and bonds; and \$8 million in cash.
3. The semicolon is placed outside quotation marks and parentheses.
The ambassador again demanded “complete autonomy”; the demand was again rejected.
My mother enjoyed his stories (and even his jokes); my father asked him questions about his work.

Slash (*or* Oblique) /

1. The slash usually substitutes for *or* or *and/or*.
in his/her case

the social/cultural background

2. The slash may replace *to* or *and* or a hyphen.
2008/09 (*or* 2008–09)
the May/June issue (*or* the May–June issue)

3. The slash is used with numerals in dates and fractions.
8/15/08
a 7/8-mile course
2 3/16 inches wide
4. The slash means *per* or *to* when used in a ratio, or when used between units of measure.
their price/earnings ratio
400,000 tons/year [=tons per year]
29 mi/gal [=miles per gallon]
a 50/50 split
5. The slash punctuates a few abbreviations.
w/o [=without]
c/o [=care of]

Compounds

Compounds are words that are made up of two or more words. Compounds may be closed, with no space between the words (for example, *airport, bypass*), hyphenated (*late-night, air-conditioning*), or open (*black market, love affair*). Compounds may be nouns (for example, *sailboat*), verbs (*ice-skate*), adjectives (*all-night*), or any other part of speech. Many common compounds are listed in this dictionary; however, new compounds may be invented by writers for a single use. If a compound is not found in a dictionary, it should either be hyphenated or left open.

1. Compound nouns that consist of longer words are usually left open.
computer program
employment agency
costume designer
2. Compounds that act as adjectives before a noun are usually hyphenated, but not when the individual words of the compound are capitalized.
a made-up excuse
higher health-care costs
the Civil War era
a New York restaurant

3. A compound adjective that follows a noun is usually not hyphenated unless it consists of a noun followed by an adjective.
Her fame was well deserved.
Aluminum is rust-resistant.

Capitals and Italics

Beginnings

1. The first word of a sentence or sentence fragment is capitalized.

They make a desert and call it peace.
So many men, so many opinions.
Bravo!

2. The first word of a sentence that is a direct quotation is normally capitalized. If a quoted sentence is interrupted, the second part does not begin with a capital.

She replied, "All he ever wanted was a home he could call his own."
"All he ever wanted," she replied, "was a home he could call his own."

3. The first word of a complete sentence within a sentence is usually capitalized.

As they say, "In unity is strength."
The basic rule is, When in doubt, spell it out.
My first thought was, Who's responsible for this?

4. The first word of a line of poetry is traditionally capitalized, though in modern poetry it is often not capitalized. The poem's original capitalization should not be changed.

Go, and catch a falling star,
Get with child a mandrake root,
Tell me, where all past years are,
Or who cleft the Devil's foot.
—John Donne

Proper Nouns and Adjectives

1. Names of people and places, organizations and their members, conferences and councils, and historical periods and events are capitalized.

Noah Webster	the Yalta Conference
Madrid	the Bronze Age
the United Nations	World War I

2. Nouns and adjectives for languages, nationalities, peoples, religious groups, and tribes are capitalized.

Latin and Greek	the Asian continent
Spanish nouns	Asians and Africans
most Spaniards	Muslims
a few Hispanics	a Muslim prayer
Hispanic culture	an Apache
Islam	Apache warriors

3. Adjectives that are formed from people's names and other proper nouns are usually capitalized.

Elizabethan England
the Trojan War
a Himalayan expedition

4. Titles that come before the name of a person are generally capitalized. Titles that are separated from the name by a comma, and titles that are used alone, usually are not capitalized.

President Lincoln
King Henry VIII
Henry VIII, king of England
President Rodríguez
Astropha's president, Salma Rodríguez
Astropha Corp.'s president was there.

5. Words of family relationship are capitalized when used before, or in place of, a person's name.

Uncle Fred's car
on Mother's birthday

6. Words for the supreme being are capitalized.

Allah	the Almighty
Jehovah	in the eyes of God

7. Names of days of the week, months, and holidays and holy days are capitalized, but not names of seasons.

Tuesday	Hanukkah
August	Easter
New Year's Day	winter
Ramadan	

8. Words in titles of books, magazines, newspapers, plays, movies, artworks, and musical compositions are capitalized, except for articles (*a, an, the*), conjunctions (*and, but, or, etc.*), and short prepositions (*by, of, from, etc.*). A title's first word is always capitalized. The entire title is set in italics.

J. R. R. Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings*
reading *National Geographic*
the *New York Times*
Lawrence of Arabia, starring Peter O'Toole
Rodin's sculpture *The Thinker*
a production of Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro*

Titles of newspaper and magazine articles, short stories, and songs are capitalized in the same way, but enclosed in quotation marks rather than italicized.

an article entitled "Solving the Housing Crisis"
Chekhov's famous story "The Black Monk".
"La Marseillaise" is France's national anthem.

9. Trademarks and brand names are capitalized.

Coke	Levi's	Velcro
------	--------	--------

Other Styling Conventions

1. Italics are often used for letters that are referred to as letters, words that are referred to as

words, and numerals that are referred to as numerals.

The *g* in *align* is silent.

Data may be treated as either a singular or a plural noun.

The first *2* and the last *0* are hard to read.

2. Italics are used for emphasis.

He wasn't *the* vice president, merely *a* vice president.

"We're leaving *right now!*"

Abbreviations

The rules listed below are generally followed in American writing. Though these rules are often followed in British writing as well, many British publications omit the periods from most abbreviations (for example, *Mr, Mrs, Ms, Dr, Ltd, etc, eg*).

1. A period ends most abbreviations that are formed by omitting letters of a single word. However, former abbreviations of this kind that are now considered words do not use a period.

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| cont. [=continued] | lab [=laboratory] |
| Oct. [=October] | gym [=gymnasium] |
| Dr. [=Doctor] | ad [=advertisement] |

2. Periods are usually omitted from abbreviations made up of single first letters that are capitalized. Uncapitalized abbreviations usually keep their periods.

- GOP [=Grand Old Party]
PR [=public relations]
CEO [=chief executive officer]
AM *or* a.m. [=ante meridiem]

3. A few abbreviations are punctuated with slashes.

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| c/o [=care of] | w/o [=without] |
|----------------|----------------|

5. When an abbreviation with a period ends a sentence, its period becomes the sentence's final period.

Renata Shortlidge is employed by Briggs & Strahan Ltd.

5. Abbreviations are capitalized if the words they represent are capitalized.

- 22° F [=Fahrenheit]
the IRS [=Internal Revenue Service]
on Jan. 6 [=January]

6. Abbreviations are usually all-capitalized when they represent the first letters of uncapitalized words.

- IQ [=intelligence quotient]
FYI [=for your information]

7. Most abbreviations that are formed from first letters and pronounced as words are capitalized.

- NATO [=North Atlantic Treaty Organization]
NASCAR [=National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing]

8. Abbreviations of given names are followed by a period.

- J. Edgar Hoover
T. S. Eliot
V. S. Naipaul

9. The courtesy titles *Mr., Mrs.,* and *Ms.* occur only as abbreviations today. When followed by a name, *Doctor* is usually abbreviated, and *Professor, Reverend, Senator,* and *Representative* are often abbreviated.

- Ms. Rachel A. Downs
Dr. Paul Lazare
Prof. (*or* Professor) Henry Keys
Sen. (*or* Senator) Lee Gross

10. Abbreviations are usually made plural by adding -s or -'s.

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| yrs. [=years] | PCs <i>or</i> PC's |
| figs. [=figures] | PhDs |
| HMOs | |

11. Possessives of abbreviations are formed like ordinary possessives, by adding -'s to singular nouns and an apostrophe to plural nouns.

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| the CEO's speech | Brown Bros.' ads |
| Apex Co.'s profits | HMOs' lobbyists |

Numbers

1. Numbers from one to nine are generally spelled out; numbers greater than nine are generally shown as figures.

- The museum has eight rooms of paintings, containing a total of 155 works.
They sold 700 TV sets during the 10-day sale.

Higher numbers that are not meant to be literal are spelled out.

She had told him a thousand times. [=she had told him many times]

Some writers instead spell out all the numbers from one to ninety-nine, as well as approximate numbers consisting of a whole number plus *hundred, thousand,* etc.

- The island is 161 miles long and only two miles wide.
In the course of four hours, she signed twenty-five hundred copies of her book.

For very large round numbers, it is common to spell out only the word *million, billion,* etc.

- Profits for the year exceeded \$7 million.
More than 3.5 billion people live in poverty.

2. If a number begins a sentence, it is written out.

Sixty-two new bills will be brought before the committee.

3. Numbers of more than three digits are normally written with a comma before each group of three. Commas are not used in street addresses, page numbers, or year numbers.

2,241 cases	2305 Sunset Blvd.
a fee of \$12,250	on page 1121
population: 3,466,000	the events of 1985

4. In full dates, commas are generally used before and after the year in American-style dates (which list the month first, followed by the day and year).

On August 8, 1920, the entire building was destroyed by fire.

British-style dates (which list the day first, followed by the month and year) do not require a comma.

On 8 August 1920 the entire building was destroyed by fire.

Common First Names

The list below shows the common first names used in the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, and Australia. Common nicknames are shown in parentheses next to the formal name. Many names that are widely used as nicknames may also be given at birth as legal names; such names appear more than once in this list.

FEMALE

Alice	Erin	Margaret (Meg, Maggie, Peggy, Peg, Marge)
Amanda (Mandy)	Evelyn (Evie)	Maria
Amy	Florence (Flo)	Marie
Andrea (Andy)	Frances (Francie, Fran, Franny)	Marilyn (Lyn)
Angela (Angie)	Georgia	Martha (Marty)
Ann, Anne (Annie)	Gloria	Mary
Anna	Grace (Gracie)	Megan, Meghan
Annie	Hannah	Melissa (Missy, Lissa)
Ashley	Heather	Michelle (Shelly, Shelley, Shell)
Barbara (Barb, Bobbi, Babs)	Helen	Mildred (Millie)
Betty	Irene	Nancy (Nan)
Beverly (Bev)	Jacqueline (Jackie)	Nicola (Nicki, Nicky, Nikki)
Bonnie	Jane (Janie)	Nicole (Nicki, Nicky, Nikki)
Brenda	Janet (Jan, Nettie)	Norma
Caitlin	Janice (Jan)	Olivia
Carol	Jean (Jeannie)	Pamela (Pam, Pammy)
Carolyn, Caroline (Lyn)	Jennifer (Jen, Jenny, Jenna)	Patricia (Pat, Patty, Trish, Tricia)
Catherine (Cathy, Kate, Katie, Kay)	Jessica (Jessie)	Paula
Charlotte (Lottie)	Joan (Joanie)	Phyllis
Cheryl	Joyce	Rachel
Chloe	Judith (Judy)	Rebecca (Becky, Becca)
Christina (Chris, Tina, Chrissie, Christie)	Julia	Robin, Robyn
Christine (Chris, Tina, Chrissie, Christie)	Julie	Rose (Rosie)
Claire	Karen	Ruby
Cynthia (Cindy, Cyndi)	Katherine, Kathryn (Kathy, Kate, Katie, Kay)	Ruth (Ruthie)
Deborah, Debra (Deb, Debbie, Debby)	Kathleen (Kathy, Kate, Katie, Kay)	Samantha (Sammy, Sam)
Denise (Denny)	Kathy (Kate, Katie, Kay)	Sandra (Sandy)
Diana (Di)	Kelly	Sara, Sarah (Sally)
Diane (Di)	Kimberly (Kim)	Sharon (Shari)
Donna	Laura	Shirley (Shirl)
Doris (Dot, Dottie)	Lauren	Sophie
Dorothy (Dot, Dottie)	Lillian (Lil)	Stephanie (Steph, Stephe)
Edith (Edie)	Lily	Susan (Sue, Susie, Suzy)
Elizabeth (Liz, Beth, Betsy, Ellie, Betty, Bette, Liza, Bess, Eliza)	Linda	Tammy
Ellie	Lisa	Teresa, Theresa (Terry, Terri, Tess)
Emily (Emmy)	Lois	Tina
Emma	Lori	Virginia (Ginny)
	Louise (Lou)	Wanda
	Lucy	
	Madison (Maddy)	

MALE

Aaron	Gary	Michael (Mike)
Adam	George	Nathan (Nate)
Alan, Allan (Al)	Gerald (Jerry, Gerry)	Nicholas (Nick, Nicky)
Albert (Al, Bert)	Gregory (Greg)	Oliver (Ollie)
Alexander (Alex, Alec, Sandy)	Harold (Hal, Harry)	Patrick (Pat, Rick, Ricky, Paddy)
Andrew (Andy)	Harry	Paul
Anthony (Tony)	Henry (Harry, Hank)	Peter (Pete)
Antonio (Tony)	Howard (Howie)	Philip, Phillip (Phil)
Arthur (Art, Artie)	Ian	Ralph
Benjamin (Ben, Benny)	Jack (Jackie)	Randy
Billy	Jacob (Jake, Jack)	Raymond (Ray)
Bobby	James (Jim, Jimmy, Jamie)	Richard (Dick, Rich, Richie, Rick, Ricky)
Brandon	Jason	Robert (Bob, Bobby, Robbie, Rob, Bert, Robin)
Brian	Jeffrey (Jeff)	Roger
Bruce	Jeremy (Jerry)	Ronald (Ron, Ronnie)
Carl	Jerry	Roy
Carlos	Jesse	Russell (Russ, Rusty)
Charles (Chuck, Charlie, Chip)	Jimmy	Ryan
Chris	Joe	Samuel (Sam, Sammy)
Christopher (Chris)	John (Jack, Johnny)	Scott (Scottie, Scotty)
Clarence	Johnny	Sean, Shawn
Colin	Jonathan (Jon)	Stephen, Steven (Steve, Stevie)
Connor, Conor	Jordan (Jordy)	Steve (Stevie)
Craig	José	Terry
Daniel (Dan, Danny)	Joseph (Joe, Joey)	Thomas (Tom, Tommy)
David (Dave)	Joshua (Josh)	Timothy (Tim, Timmy)
Dennis (Denny)	Juan	Todd
Donald (Don, Donnie, Donny)	Justin	Tyler
Douglas (Doug, Dougie)	Keith	Victor (Vic)
Dylan	Kenneth (Ken, Kenny)	Walter (Walt, Wally)
Earl	Kevin	Wayne
Edward (Ed, Ted, Eddie, Teddy)	Lachlan	William (Bill, Billy, Will, Willie, Liam)
Eric (Rick, Ricky)	Larry	Willie
Ernest (Ernie)	Lawrence (Larry)	
Ethan	Liam	
Eugene (Gene)	Logan	
Frank (Frankie)	Louis (Lou)	
Fred (Freddy)	Luke	
	Mark	
	Martin (Marty)	
	Matthew (Matt, Matty)	

Money

CURRENCY

About half of all English-speaking countries use currencies based on their own *dollar* (\$), divided into 100 *cents* (¢). The other half use non-dollar currencies, also divided into 100 units.

United States

The basic unit of U.S. currency is the U.S. dollar. Bills are issued with values of \$1, \$2, \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50, and \$100, although the \$2 bill is rarely used. All bills are the same size and have traditionally all been the same green color. The basic color of the bills continues to be green, but some now include other colors as well. U.S. coins are issued with values of 1¢ (a *penny*), 5¢ (a *nickel*), 10¢ (a *dime*), 25¢ (a *quarter*), 50¢ (a *half-dollar*), and \$1, although the 50¢ and \$1 coins are rarely used. A coin's size does not indicate its value; the dime is smaller than the penny and nickel, and the dollar is smaller than the half-dollar. A dollar is often informally called a *buck*.

United Kingdom

The unit of British currency is the pound (£), which is divided into 100 pence (p). Coins are issued with values of 1p (a *penny*), 2p, 5p, 10p, 50p, £1, and £2. Bills, or *notes*, are issued with values of £5, £10, £20, and £50, although the £50 note is rarely used. Informally, a pound is often called a *quid*, a £10 note is often called a *tenner*, a £5 note is often called a *fiver*, and pence (pennies) are usually called simply "p" ("I need another 50p"). A coin's size does not indicate its value; the £1 coin is smaller than the 50p, 10p, and 2p coins.

Canada

The Canadian currency unit is the Canadian dollar. There are \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50, and \$100 bills, each with its own color. The \$1 coin is often called the *loonie* (the bird on the coin is a loon), and the \$2 coin is often called the *toonie*. Smaller coins are valued at 1¢ (*penny*), 5¢ (*nickel*), 10¢ (*dime*), 25¢ (*quarter*), and 50¢ (*50-cent piece*), although the 50¢ coin is rarely used. A coin's size does not indicate its value; the \$2 coin, \$1 coin, and 50-cent piece are all similar in size, and the dime is smaller than the penny and nickel.

Australia

Australia's currency unit is the Australian dollar. The currency consists of coins of 5¢, 10¢, 20¢, 50¢, \$1, and \$2, and *notes* (bills) in various colors with values of \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50, and \$100. A coin's size does not indicate its value; the \$1 and \$2 coins are smaller than the 20¢ and 50¢ coins.

CARDS AND CHECKS

Credit cards are plastic cards issued by banks and other institutions. You can use them to pay for items and services, but only up to the amount of your *credit limit*, which is usually somewhat higher than the amount in your *bank account*. When the bill arrives each month, you may pay all of what you owe. If you instead choose to pay smaller amounts of money for several months until the full *balance* has been paid, an *interest fee* may be added. The interest fee depends on the *interest rate* of the particular credit card; interest rates can vary a great deal.

You must go through an application process to get an ordinary credit card. Although getting a card does not cost anything, some credit cards require you to pay an annual *fee*. Some of these cards have no credit limit but require you to pay the entire amount you owe when the bill arrives. If you fail to pay on time, a large fee will be charged.

Credit cards may be used to get *loans*, or *cash advances*. However, the interest rate for cash advances is higher than the card's ordinary interest rate. Also, interest begins to be charged immediately, rather than after the first bill arrives.

Debit cards are issued by banks. When you use a debit card to pay for something, you *swipe* your card through an electronic device and type your personal identification number, or *PIN*. The money is then immediately removed from your bank account and given to the person or company you are paying.

ATM cards, or *cash cards*, are issued by banks. By using the card and typing in your PIN at an *ATM* (*automated teller machine*), or *cashpoint*, at any time of day, you can *withdraw* money from your account, *deposit* money into the account, find out what your balance is, and make loan *payments*.

Today, a single card issued by a bank usually serves as a credit card, debit card, and ATM card combined.

A *check* (or *cheque*) is a piece of paper that you use to pay for items and services. A check tells your bank to pay a certain amount of money to the person or company you have written the check to. Anyone with a *checking account* at a bank may write checks. In some countries, you must show a special *cheque card* or a credit card whenever you write a check for someone. If your checking account does not contain enough money to *cover* the amount of a check that you have written, the check will *bounce* and you will have to pay a fee to the bank and write another check.

Numbers

CARDINAL NUMBERS

0	zero <i>also Brit</i> nought	15	fifteen	100	one hundred <i>or</i> a
1	one	16	sixteen		hundred
2	two	17	seventeen	101	one hundred (and) one
3	three	18	eighteen	102	one hundred (and) two
4	four	19	nineteen	200	two hundred
5	five	20	twenty	300	three hundred
6	six	21	twenty-one	1,000	one thousand <i>or</i> a
7	seven	22	twenty-two		thousand
8	eight	30	thirty	1,001	one thousand (and) one
9	nine	40	forty	1,002	one thousand (and) two
10	ten	50	fifty	2,000	two thousand
11	eleven	60	sixty	100,000	one hundred thousand
12	twelve	70	seventy	1,000,000	one million
13	thirteen	80	eighty		
14	fourteen	90	ninety		

ORDINAL NUMBERS

1st	first	15th	fifteenth	90th	ninetieth
2nd	second	16th	sixteenth	100th	one-hundredth
3rd	third	17th	seventeenth	101st	one hundred (and) first
4th	fourth	18th	eighteenth	102nd	one hundred (and)
5th	fifth	19th	nineteenth		second
6th	sixth	20th	twentieth	200th	two hundredth
7th	seventh	21st	twenty-first	300th	three hundredth
8th	eighth	22nd	twenty-second	1,000th	(one) thousandth
9th	ninth	30th	thirtieth	1,001st	one thousand (and) first
10th	tenth	40th	fortieth	1,002nd	one thousand (and) second
11th	eleventh	50th	fiftieth	2,000th	two thousandth
12th	twelfth	60th	sixtieth	100,000th	one hundred thousandth
13th	thirteenth	70th	seventieth	1,000,000th	one millionth
14th	fourteenth	80th	eightieth		

For numbers above a million, different words were used in American English and British English in the past. However, the American terms are now in official use in the United Kingdom. As a result, both the American terms and the older British terms are found in British English.

	American	British
1,000,000,000	billion	billion <i>or</i> thousand million
1,000,000,000,000	trillion	trillion <i>or</i> million million <i>or</i> billion
1,000,000,000,000,000	quadrillion	quadrillion <i>or</i> thousand billion <i>or</i> trillion

Numbers that are actual amounts of money, objects, people, etc., are usually spoken using the words shown above. For example, “304 cows” is spoken as “three hundred (and) four cows,” and “\$1,500” is spoken as “one thousand, five hundred dollars” or “fifteen hundred dollars.”

Other types of numbers, such as numbers that are used for identification, in addresses, or in series, are often spoken in different ways. Any of the following may occur in speech: (1) zero may be spoken as

“oh” (that is, the same as the letter O); (2) “hundred” may be omitted; (3) each digit may be pronounced separately; (4) the first two digits of a four-digit number may be spoken as if they were a complete number. For example:

109	“one oh nine”
234	“two thirty-four” <i>or</i> “two three four”
2012	“twenty twelve” <i>or</i> “two oh one two”
3104	“thirty-one oh four” <i>or</i> “three one oh four”

ROMAN NUMERALS

Roman numerals were first used by the ancient Romans but are still sometimes used by English speakers to suggest age and tradition or for certain purposes. They are often used on monuments and on clocks; in numbered outline lists; at the beginning of paragraphs in complex documents; in copyright dates; for numbering sports events such as the Olympic Games; and for identifying kings, queens, popes, and children with the same name as others who came earlier.

1	I	10	X	70	LXX	600	DC
2	II	11	XI	80	LXXX	900	CM
3	III	12	XII	90	XC	1000	M
4	IV	20	XX	100	C	1492	MCDXCII
5	V	21	XXI	101	CI	1558	MDLVIII
6	VI	30	XXX	200	CC	1943	MCMXLIII
7	VII	40	XL	300	CCC	2020	MMXX
8	VIII	50	L	400	CD		
9	IX	60	LX	500	D		

FRACTIONS AND DECIMALS

Simple fractions are often spelled out in print.

1/10	one tenth <i>or</i> a tenth
1/5	one fifth <i>or</i> a fifth
1/4	one fourth <i>or</i> a fourth, one quarter <i>or</i> a quarter
1/3	one third <i>or</i> a third
3/8	three eighths
2/5	two fifths
1/2	one half <i>or</i> a half
3/4	three quarters
7/8	seven eighths
11/10	eleven tenths
1 1/2	one and a half <i>or</i> one and one half
12 1/4	twelve and a quarter <i>or</i> twelve and one quarter

The words in spelled-out fractions may be connected with hyphens: *one-tenth*, *three-quarters*, *one-and-a-half*, etc.

Decimal numbers are never spelled out in print. When they are spoken, the decimal point is always called “point,” and each digit after the point is named separately.

.25	“point two five”
10.30	“ten point three zero”
42.597	“forty-two point five nine seven”
2.5 million	“two point five million”

Weights and Measures

U.S. and British Systems

Unit	Equivalents in Other Units of Same System	Metric Equivalent
WEIGHT		
ton	2,000 pounds, 20 hundredweight (<i>US</i>)	0.907 metric ton
	2,240 pounds, 20 hundredweight (<i>Brit</i>)	1.016 metric tons
hundredweight	100 pounds, 0.05 ton (<i>US</i>)	45.359 kilograms
	112 pounds, 0.05 ton (<i>Brit</i>)	50.802 kilograms
stone (<i>Brit</i>)	14 pounds	6.350 kilograms
pound	16 ounces, 7,000 grains	0.4536 kilogram
ounce	437.5 grains, 0.0625 pound	28.350 grams
grain	0.002286 ounce	0.0648 gram
CAPACITY		
<i>U.S. liquid measure</i>		
gallon	4 quarts, 231 cubic inches	3.785 liters
quart	2 pints, 57.75 cubic inches	0.946 liter
pint	16 fluid ounces, 28.875 cubic inches	0.473 liter
cup	8 fluid ounces, 14.438 cubic inches	0.237 liter
fluid ounce	1.805 cubic inches	29.573 milliliters
<i>British imperial liquid measure</i>		
gallon	4 quarts, 277.420 cubic inches	4.546 liters
quart	2 pints, 69.355 cubic inches	1.136 liters
pint	20 fluid ounces, 34.678 cubic inches	568.26 milliliters
fluid ounce	1.734 cubic inches	28.412 milliliters
LENGTH		
mile	1,760 yards, 5,280 feet	1.609 kilometers
yard	3 feet, 36 inches	0.9144 meter
foot	12 inches, 0.333 yard	30.48 centimeters
inch	0.083 foot, 0.028 yard	2.54 centimeters
AREA		
square mile	640 acres	2.590 square kilometers
acre	4,840 square yards, 43,560 square feet	0.405 hectare, 4,047 square meters
square yard	9 square feet, 1,296 square inches	0.836 square meter
square foot	144 square inches, 0.111 square yard	0.093 square meter
square inch	0.0069 square foot, 0.00077 square yard	6.452 square centimeters
VOLUME		
cubic yard	27 cubic feet, 46,656 cubic inches	0.765 cubic meter
cubic foot	1,728 cubic inches, 0.0370 cubic yard	0.028 cubic meter
cubic inch	0.00058 cubic foot, 0.000021 cubic yard	16.387 cubic centimeters

Metric System

Unit	Equivalent in Base Unit	U.S. Equivalent		
WEIGHT				
metric ton	1,000,000 grams	1.10 tons		
kilogram	1,000 grams	2.20 pounds		
gram		0.035 ounce		
centigram	0.01 gram	0.15 grain		
milligram	0.001 gram	0.015 grain		
CAPACITY				
		<i>cubic</i>	<i>U.S. liquid</i>	<i>Brit. imperial liquid</i>
kiloliter	1,000 liters	1.31 cubic yards	264.17 gallons	880.28 quarts
liter		61.02 cubic inches	1.06 quarts	0.88 quart
centiliter	0.01 liter	0.61 cubic inch	0.34 fluid ounce	0.352 fluid ounce
milliliter	0.001 liter	0.061 cubic inch	0.034 fluid ounce	0.035 fluid ounce
LENGTH				
kilometer	1,000 meters	0.62 mile		
meter		39.37 inches		
centimeter	0.01 meter	0.39 inch		
millimeter	0.001 meter	0.039 inch		
micrometer	0.000001 meter	0.000039 inch		
AREA				
square kilometer	1,000,000 square meters	0.39 square mile		
hectare	10,000 square meters	2.47 acres		
square meter		1.196 square yards		
square centimeter	0.0001 square meter	0.16 square inch		
VOLUME				
cubic meter		1.31 cubic yards		
cubic decimeter	0.001 cubic meter	61.02 cubic inches		
cubic centimeter	0.000001 cubic meter	0.061 cubic inch		

Dates

In the U.S., full dates are normally written in the order *month-day-year*, with commas before and after the year.

The *Titanic* sank on April 15, 1912.

In Britain, Australia, and Canada, month and day are usually in the opposite order, and no commas are used.

The *Titanic* sank on 15 April 1912.

The same order used for full dates is also used when a date is written entirely in numbers. Thus, 6/8/08 means June 8, 2008, in the U.S., but in Britain and usually in Australia and Canada, 6/8/08 means August 6, 2008. Because of this difference, dates should never be written entirely in numbers when their meaning might be unclear. The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) has called for an all-numbers style in the order *year-month-day*; thus, June 8, 2008, would be abbreviated as 2008-06-08. The ISO style is widely used in technical contexts in all four countries.

In dates that include only the month and year, commas are omitted.

In October 2008 the factory closed.

In informal speech and writing, *of* is often inserted between the month and year.

We sold the house in January of 2001.

Century numbers may be either spelled out or written in digits.

in the nineteenth [*or* 19th] century

a 16th- [*or* sixteenth-] century painting

Decades are often called by a short name.

a song from the sixties [*or* '60s *or* Sixties]

The abbreviations *B.C.*, *B.C.E.*, and *C.E.* are placed after the date; *A.D.* is usually placed before a specific date.

1792–1750 *B.C. or* 1792–1750 *B.C.E.*

22 *C.E. or* *A.D.* 22

All four abbreviations follow the word *century*.

the 4th century *A.D. or* the 4th century *C.E.*

In speech, people often omit the word *hundred* from the names of years.

814: “eight fourteen” / “eight hundred fourteen”

1492: “fourteen ninety-two” / “fourteen hundred ninety-two”

1801: “eighteen-oh-one” / “eighteen hundred and one” / “eighteen one”

2013: “two thousand thirteen” / “two thousand and thirteen” / “twenty thirteen”

In both speech and writing, ordinal numbers (*1st*, *2nd*, *3rd*, *4th*, etc.) are often used instead of cardinal numbers (*1*, *2*, *3*, *4*, etc.), especially for dates that lack a year.

The package arrived on December 4th. = The package arrived on the 4th of December.

Holidays

This table shows the most important religious and nonreligious holidays in four English-speaking countries.

The abbreviation (g) marks public holidays set by the government. In the United States, these holidays are official only for employees of the federal government (although they are also observed by many businesses). In Canada and Australia, some government holidays are not observed in all provinces or states.

Most holidays associated with a particular date, such as Christmas, are celebrated on that date even when the actual holiday from work falls on the closest weekday. Some, such as Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day, Halloween, and Guy Fawkes Day, are almost never holidays from work.

UNITED STATES	UNITED KINGDOM	CANADA	AUSTRALIA
New Year's Day, January 1 (g) Martin Luther King Day, third Monday in January (g) Valentine's Day, February 14 Washington's Birthday (Presidents' Day), third Monday in February (g) St. Patrick's Day, March 17 Easter, first Sunday after first full moon after March 20 Mother's Day, second Sunday in May Memorial Day, last Monday in May (g) Father's Day, third Sunday in June Independence Day, July 4 (g) Labor Day, first Monday in September (g) Columbus Day, second Monday in October (g) Halloween, October 31 Veterans Day, November 11 (g) Thanksgiving, fourth Thursday in November (g) Christmas, December 25 (g)	New Year's Day, January 1 or following Monday (g) Valentine's Day, February 14 St. Patrick's Day, March 17 Early May Bank Holiday, first Monday in May (g) Mother's Day, third Sunday before Easter Good Friday, two days before Easter (g) Easter, first Sunday after first full moon after March 20 Easter Monday, day after Easter (g) Spring Bank Holiday, last Monday in May (g) Father's Day, third Sunday in June Summer Bank Holiday, last Monday in August (g) Guy Fawkes Day, November 5 Remembrance Sunday, Sunday nearest November 11 Christmas, December 25 or following Monday (g) Boxing Day, December 26 or first weekday after Christmas holiday (g)	New Year's Day, January 1 (g) Valentine's Day, February 14 St. Patrick's Day, March 17 Good Friday, two days before Easter (g) Easter, first Sunday after first full moon after March 20 Easter Monday, day after Easter (g) Mother's Day, second Sunday in May Victoria Day, Monday before May 25 (g) Father's Day, third Sunday in June Canada Day, July 1; if Sunday, moved to Monday (g) Labour Day, first Monday in September (g) Thanksgiving Day, second Monday in October (g) Remembrance Day, November 11 (g) Christmas, December 25 or following Monday (g) Boxing Day, December 26 or first weekday after Christmas holiday (g)	New Year's Day, January 1 or following Monday (g) Australia Day, January 26 or following Monday (g) Valentine's Day, February 14 St. Patrick's Day, March 17 Good Friday, two days before Easter (g) Easter, first Sunday after first full moon after March 20 Easter Monday, day after Easter (g) Anzac Day, April 25; if Sunday, moved to Monday (g) Mother's Day, second Sunday in May Queen's Birthday, second Monday in June (g) Father's Day, first Sunday in September Remembrance Day, November 11 Christmas, December 25 or following Monday (g) Boxing Day, December 26 or first weekday after Christmas holiday (g)

Envelope Addresses

The first two or three lines of an address on an envelope have the same general elements in the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, and Australia. The first line shows the name of the person receiving the letter, and the next line consists of a street address or post-office box number, as appropriate. In most cases, the street address has a street number followed by the street name. Additional information, such as the person's title or the company's name (for example, Universal Metrics, Inc.) can be entered on additional lines above the street address. The elements of the remaining address lines in each country are discussed below.

United States The name of the city or town, the two-letter state abbreviation, and the five-digit zip code are written on the same line. Every address has a unique four-digit number that is attached to the zip code (for example, 77269-2501), but these numbers are not used frequently.

Elizabeth Kingston Murray
Universal Metrics, Inc.
357 East Madison St.
Houston, TX 77269
U.S.A.

United Kingdom The city or town name is written in all capital letters. The postcode consists of numbers and capital letters and is entered on its own line with one space between its two parts. A county name, not written in all capital letters, may be included on its own line below the postcode but is usually omitted. The name of the specific country within the United Kingdom—England, Scotland, Wales, or Northern Ireland—may appear in place of “United Kingdom” or “UK” as the last line of the address.

Mr. G. B. Robinson
Universal Metrics Ltd.
29 Edgbaston Park Rd.
BIRMINGHAM
B15 2RT
England

Canada The name of the city or town, the two-letter province or territory abbreviation, and the postal code should be written on the same line. The six-character postal code consists of letters and numbers with one space between its two parts.

Jane MacAllister
Universal Metrics, Ltd.
249 Adelaide St. E., Suite 203
Toronto, ON M5A 1N1
Canada

Australia The city, town, or post-office name is followed by the state or territory abbreviation and the four-digit postcode, with one or two spaces between each of these parts. There is no punctuation on this line, and all letters are capitalized. When a country name is entered on the last line, it should be written in all capital letters.

Mr. Roger Lewis
Universal Metrics Pty. Ltd.
166 Kent Street, Level 9
SYDNEY NSW 2001
AUSTRALIA

STANDARD STATE AND PROVINCE ABBREVIATIONS

United States: States and Territories

(Official abbreviations are listed in the middle column. Traditional abbreviations are listed in the right-hand column.)

Alabama	AL	Ala.
Alaska	AK	Alas.
American Samoa	AS	—
Arizona	AZ	Ariz.
Arkansas	AR	Ark.
California	CA	Cal.
Colorado	CO	Colo.
Connecticut	CT	Conn.
Delaware	DE	Del.
District of Columbia	DC	D.C.
Florida	FL	Fla.
Georgia	GA	Ga.
Guam	GU	—
Hawaii	HI	—
Idaho	ID	—
Illinois	IL	Ill.
Indiana	IN	Ind.
Iowa	IA	Ia.
Kansas	KS	Kan.
Kentucky	KY	Ky.
Louisiana	LA	La.
Maine	ME	Me.
Maryland	MD	Md.
Massachusetts	MA	Mass.
Michigan	MI	Mich.
Minnesota	MN	Minn.
Mississippi	MS	Miss.
Missouri	MO	Mo.
Montana	MT	Mont.
Nebraska	NE	Neb.
Nevada	NV	Nev.
New Hampshire	NH	N.H.
New Jersey	NJ	N.J.
New Mexico	NM	N.M.
New York	NY	N.Y.
North Carolina	NC	N.C.
North Dakota	ND	N.D.
Northern Mariana Islands	MP	—
Ohio	OH	O.
Oklahoma	OK	Okla.
Oregon	OR	Ore.
Pennsylvania	PA	Pa.
Puerto Rico	PR	P.R.
Rhode Island	RI	R.I.
South Carolina	SC	S.C.
South Dakota	SD	S.D.
Tennessee	TN	Tenn.
Texas	TX	Tex.
Utah	UT	—
Vermont	VT	Vt.
Virgin Islands	VI	V.I.

Virginia	VA	Va.
Washington	WA	Wash.
West Virginia	WV	W.Va.
Wisconsin	WI	Wisc.
Wyoming	WY	Wyo.

United Kingdom

Though all four countries of the United Kingdom are divided into counties, counties are usually omitted from postal addresses.

Australia: States and Territories

Australian Capital Territory	ACT
New South Wales	NSW
Northern Territory	NT
Queensland	QLD
South Australia	SA
Tasmania	TAS
Victoria	VIC
Western Australia	WA

Canada: Provinces and Territories

Alberta	AB
British Columbia	BC
Manitoba	MB
New Brunswick	NB
Newfoundland and Labrador	NL
Northwest Territories	NT
Nova Scotia	NS
Nunavut	NU
Ontario	ON
Prince Edward Island	PE
Quebec	QC
Saskatchewan	SK
Yukon Territory	YT

General

Several other abbreviations are standard in addresses in all four countries.

Street	St.
Avenue	Ave.
Road	Rd.
Drive	Dr.
Boulevard	Blvd.
North	N.
South	S.
East	E.
West	W.

E-Mail, Letters, Memos, and Résumés

E-Mail

Almost all business correspondence today uses e-mail.

Business e-mails should always include a subject line. This may let the other person know whether the message is urgent, and it will be valuable whenever either person needs to find the message in the future. When you answer a business e-mail, you should normally retain the subject line of the e-mail that you are answering.

Use the CC box to send copies to other people in your office who might be interested in the message. If you want to send a copy to someone without showing that person's name to the other people who receive the message, use the BCC box instead.

E-mail greetings, even in business correspondence, are usually quite informal. When writing to someone you do not know, always begin with "Dear Mr." or "Dear Ms." (for example, "Dear Mr. Nast:"). Business relationships in the U.S. now often become friendly and informal quickly, however. When the other person sends you an e-mail and signs it with his or her first name by itself, or uses your first name by itself in the greeting (for example, "Dear Martin,"), you may generally feel free to address him or her in that same way in your next e-mail. You may feel comfortable using "Hi" ("Hi Martin,") soon afterward. If the other person has a higher title than you, however, it is often better to remain formal in all your correspondence with him or her.

The language in the rest of the e-mail may also become quite informal. However, always be careful about using humor, since it often will not be understood properly.

A message should normally be limited to one subject. If you have two subjects to discuss, it is best to send two separate e-mails (with different subject lines). Keeping messages limited to one subject will make it easier for both you and the other person to file and find them.

If someone has written to you about several different subjects in a single e-mail, it may be best to write each separate response after the appropriate paragraph in the other person's message.

Use asterisks to emphasize a word or phrase (for example, "I meant the *Philips* account, not the Phillips account"). Using all capital letters ("I meant the PHILIPS account . . .") can seem rude; any other kind of unusual type (such as boldface, italic, or underlining) may disappear when the message is sent.

Most business e-mails include a special ending (called a *complimentary close*) before the writer's name at the end. Somewhat formal ways of ending an e-mail include "Sincerely yours," "Yours sincerely," and "Best regards"; less formal options include "Sincerely," "Yours," and "Best." If you know someone well, your first name by itself may be enough, and very informal e-mails even omit the name. However, it is generally best to include at least an informal ending and your first name.

From: charlotte_gates@kestrel.com
To: mbkim@lakeland.com
CC: efrost@kestrel.com; nnmarkova@kestrel.com
Subject: Lunch meeting

Dear Meg:

After so many phone conversations, it was delightful to finally meet over lunch on Tuesday. (And what a great lunch it was!)

If my notes are correct, my responsibilities at this point are basically as follows:

Review the Tomkins manuscript with an eye to its textbook potential.

Get a final decision from Ken Pascal on whether we'll be entering the bidding for the Perez translation.

Sound out WideWorld about a distribution arrangement for the Ghost Riders series.

Please let me know if I've forgotten anything. Otherwise, I'll be in touch to inform you of any progress.

Best regards,
Charlotte Gates

Letters

Business letters are usually more formal than e-mails. All business letters employ very similar formats.

Business letters are normally written on the company's official stationery (or *letterhead*). Any business letter that is not written on company letterhead should include the writer's address at the top, without the writer's name. The date comes next. Below the date comes the name and address of the person you are writing to, exactly as they will appear on the envelope (see *Envelope Addresses*, p. 1986). This is followed by the greeting (or *salutation*), which always be-

gins with "Dear." When you write to a company or organization and you do not know the name of a particular person to address, you can address the company, organization, or department in general (for example, "Dear Merriam-Webster:").

Business letters end with a complimentary close, the writer's signature, the typed name, and often the writer's title. The common endings for letters, both formal and less formal, are mostly the same as those for e-mails.

Below is a sample letter from a retail hardware business.

May 7, 2008

Mr. David Lindberg
Credit Manager
Harkins Hardware
100 Lake Street
Smithville, UT 84103

Dear Mr. Lindberg:

After meeting with you and inspecting your exhibit of fine carpenters' tools at the BTSE Convention in San Francisco last week, we have decided that we would like to carry your entire line of tools on a locally exclusive basis.

Please consider this letter an application for a charge account in the \$5,000-\$10,000 range. Credit references will be supplied upon request.

We are delighted to have the opportunity to handle the exclusive Harkins franchise in the Carson City area, and we look forward to building a healthy and profitable business relationship.

Very truly yours,



Howard Perretta
Vice President, Sales

Memos

The office memo (or *memorandum*) is the normal way to send information within an office or company.

A standard memo uses four headings, often in this order: DATE, TO, FROM, SUBJECT (or RE). The heading CC may also be included after the subject line.

The memo omits three elements of the traditional letter (see Letters, p. 1990): the salutation, the complimentary close, and the signature. In place of a signature, the sender's handwritten initials may appear beside his or her name on the FROM line.

A memo may be addressed to one person, a few people, a department, or an entire office or com-

pany ("TO: Lily Martin," "TO: Customer Service Department," "TO: All Employees," etc.). If the memo is directed mainly to one or more people, but certain other employees may be interested in it as well, these others should be listed at the CC heading.

When writing a memo, state your purpose clearly at the beginning. Use bulleted lists where possible. Keep any courteous language brief.

Today most memos are sent by e-mail. A memo that is sent as an e-mail attachment may look exactly like a printed memo, even including the company's letterhead design.

A sample memo is shown below.

DATE: May 4, 2008
TO: All Employees
FROM: R. T. Schmidt *RTS*
SUBJECT: Summer Hours

I'm pleased to announce that our optional summer schedule will again be available from May 27 through September 30.

On Mondays through Thursdays, the workday will increase by one half hour. You may either reduce your lunch break by a half hour or add a half hour to your workday. On Fridays, you may leave two hours early.

Thus, Friday departure times, based on starting times, will be as follows:

Start	Leave
7:30 a.m	2:00 p.m.
8:00	2:30
8:30	3:00
9:00	3:30

Whenever you are planning to take a Friday as a vacation day, you should work regular hours on the preceding Monday through Thursday.
Here's to a great summer ahead!

Résumés

A résumé (or *CV* or *curriculum vitae*) is a summary of your qualifications for a job. Résumés are fairly standard in form, but there are many acceptable variations.

At the top of a résumé, you should state your name, mailing address, phone number, and e-mail address.

In English-speaking countries, you should *not* state your age, race, religion, height or weight, general health, or whether you are single or married.

If your education and training are especially strong or recent or relate very closely to the job you are seeking, they should be listed first. List each degree or certificate that you have earned, the school's name and location, and the year that the degree was granted.

If your work experience (or volunteer experience) is stronger or more relevant than your education, it may be listed before your education. Begin with your current job and then list any others that you want to include. For each job, state your title or function, the company and its location, and the years you worked there. You may want to briefly list your responsibilities and achievements. If you were not working during certain years, briefly explain why.

To help describe your life and personality, you may want to list your main activities and interests outside of work at the end of the résumé.

Most employers will want references (that is, statements about your abilities, character, etc.) from former teachers or employers before offering you a job. However, a résumé normally omits the names of such people and instead ends with the statement "References available on request."

The complete résumé should be only one or two pages long. Longer résumés usually are not read carefully by employers.

If you are applying for more than one kind of job, you may want to revise your résumé for each job application. If you save each version as a separate document on your computer, it will be easy to choose the version that is most appropriate for each application.

With every résumé that you send out, you should send a *cover letter*. This should state why you are applying for the job and should explain anything in the résumé that may seem odd to an employer. It may also mention anything important that you have done in your life that does not appear on the résumé. Cover letters should be no longer than one or two pages.

A résumé should normally be sent by ordinary mail. If the job advertisement you are responding to gives a fax number or an e-mail address, it should instead be faxed or e-mailed as an attachment.

The sample on the next page uses one of the most common résumé formats.

CARLOS SANTOS

76 Fifth Street
 Glendale, NY 11385
 (718) 497-3333
 csantos@email.com

FINANCIAL SERVICES**Professional Experience**

Client Service Supervisor 2006-Present
 North Fork Bank, New York, NY
 Serve as acting Branch Manager. Train staff. Cultivate beneficial business relationships. Monitor regulatory compliance. Implement budget controls. Oversee alarms.

Sales Associate 2000-2006
 South Fork Bank, New York, NY
 Built customer loyalty. Generated targeted marketing to maximize sales growth for credit cards. Opened accounts. Managed foreign collections. Trained sales team.

Service Teller 1997-2000
 East Fork Bank, New York, NY
 Assisted customers with deposits, withdrawals, and transfers.
 Promoted and processed sales of bonds, bank checks, and money orders. Balanced cash drawers daily.

Education and Training

Associate of Science 1996
 Nassau Community College
 Garden City, NY

Interests and Activities

Coach Youth Softball • American Red Cross

References Available on Request

Pronunciation Symbols

VOWELS

Note: when two symbols are separated by / in the list below (ei/ej, u/ow, etc.), the second symbol is used when the sound occurs immediately before another vowel and the first symbol is used elsewhere. The symbols /ɑ: i: u:/ are written as /ɑ i u/ when found in unstressed syllables.

æ	ask, bat, glad
ɑ:	cot, bomb, paw
ɛ	bet, fed
ə	about, banana, collide
i:/i:j	eat, bead, bee
ɪ	id, bid, pit
ʊ	foot, should, put
u:/u:w	boot, two, coo
ʌ	under, putt, bud
ɜ:/ɜ:r	merge, bird, further
ei/ej	eight, wade, play
ai/aj	ice, bite, tile
au/aw	out, gown, owl
oi/oj	oyster, coil, boy
ou/ow	oat, own, zone
ɑɜ/ɑr	car, heart, star
eə/er	bare, fair, wear
iə/ir	near, deer, mere
oə/or	boar, port, door
uə/ur	boor, tour

Note: The symbols below are for vowels that occur in British English. British pronunciations are shown in this dictionary when the most common British pronunciation is very different from the American pronunciation.

ɒ	<i>British</i> cot, bomb
ɔ:	<i>British</i> caught, paw, port
ɔ:	<i>British</i> merge, bird
əʊ	<i>British</i> oat, own, zone
ɪə	<i>British</i> near, deer
ɛə	<i>British</i> bare, fair
ʊə	<i>British</i> boor, tour

CONSONANTS

b	baby, labor, cab
d	day, kid, riddle
dʒ	just, badger, fudge
ð	then, either, bathe
f	foe, tough, buff
g	go, dagger, bag
h	hot, ahead
j	yes, vineyard
k	cat, flock, skin
l	law, hollow
l	pedal, battle, final
m	mat, hemp, hammer
n	new, tent, tenor, run
n	button, satin, kitten
ŋ	rung, hang, swinger
p	top, speed, pay
r	rope, arrive
s	sad, mist, kiss
ʃ	shoe, mission, slush
t	stick, late, later
tʃ	batch, nature, choose
θ	thin, ether, bath
v	vat, never, cave
w	wet, software
z	zoo, easy, buzz
ʒ	vision, azure, beige

OTHER SYMBOLS

'	high stress: penmanship
,	low stress: penmanship
<i>Brit</i>	indicates British pronunciation
/	slash used in pairs to mark the beginning and end of a pronunciation or set of pronunciations /'pɛn/

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ISBN 978-0-87779-550-6

5 2 9 9 5



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